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Killer's endless fight for justice
Inside: Leading barrister says Michael Stone's battle to clear his name for the murders of Lin and Megan Russell in 1996, may never stop



Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk June 30, 2013

EAST KENT EDITION

Issue no 562

What will be the real cost to the county as Osborne swings axe?

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

COUNTY chiefs will this weekend try to clarify just how devastating the impact of yet more swingeing cuts will be to our public services, after Chancellor George Osborne's latest spending review.

What is clear, however, is that painful decisions will have to be made.

With both Kent County Council and Medway Council looking at a further 10 per cent slash to its central government funding, the police were also counting the cost.

Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes says an expected five per cent cut could equate to up to 200 front-line officers being lost.

And although council chiefs will have to take time to digest the full impact on their spending, it almost inevitably means there will be further job cuts.

What is more, Paul Carter, leader of Kent County Council, fears "a car crash around the corner" when a freeze around council tax – it was frozen again for another three years – is finally lifted, ushering in what he fears could be a "massive potential increase".

He told KoS: "We [KCC] suspected this 10 per cent was coming our way."

"We are obviously planning for that, but there is enormous uncertainty whether we will be able to go on preserving good quality front-line services with even less money. I've said before we were very close to the point of elasticity and eventually things will snap."

Chancellor Osborne unveiled the details of a further £11.5 billion to be shaved off the Government's spending, in a bid to balance the nation's books, on Wednesday.

With education and health, along

Continued on page 2



Picture: KM GROUP/ROYAL ROTAS

QUEEN IS ALL SMILES

VISIT: Her Majesty paid a visit to the county on Friday to bid troops farewell – **SEE INSIDE**

SPORT

Strawberries prove a smash

THE farm which provides some 30 tonnes of strawberries for tennis fans at Wimbledon says this year's crop is one of the very best.

One of the few positives to come from the long winter, the fruit is proving particularly flavoursome and a hit with spectators in SW19. **PAGE 3**

TOURISM

Brian Blessed booms on bus

ACTOR Brian Blessed was in the county on Monday to lend his support to a new tourism bus ride he has narrated.

And the bearded actor, whose career stretches back some 50 years, reveals how the route takes him back to his youth when he visited the county on holiday. **PAGE 14**

CONTEST

Read the 100-word winners

TURN inside to read all the winners and runners-up in the 100-word story competition.

This newspaper supported the contest, organised by Kent County Council, and judged one of the categories.

Prior to the awards day, see who triumphed out of nearly 2,000 entries. **PAGE 17**



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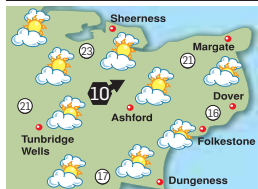
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Weather



TODAY: Dry with sun and patchy cloud. Gentle south-westerly winds. Max temp 19-22C (66-72F). **TONIGHT:** Dry with clear spells. Min temp 12-15C (54-59F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)			
Dover	04.58	6.0	17.15 6.2
Margate	06.13	4.4	18.15 4.5
St Mary's	10.48	4.7	23.16 4.8

WEEK AHEAD

	Monday	Max 20C	Min 11C
	Tuesday	Max 19C	Min 12C
	Wednesday	Max 22C	Min 13C
	Thursday	Max 24C	Min 14C
	Friday	Max 22C	Min 14C
	Saturday	Max 20C	Min 13C

Information supplied by **MeteoGroup**

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

CONTACTS

Publisher: Simon Irwin
Email: simon.irwin@archant.co.uk
Editor: Chris Britcher
Email: chris.britcher@archant.co.uk
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS
Editorial: News: 01303 817100
Leisure: 01303 817022
Sport: 01303 817177
Email: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
Advertising: Jobs/Notices: 01303 817056
Business: 01303 817056
Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk
Retail/Leisure/Motors: 01303 817150
Email: sales@kosmedia.co.uk
Distribution: 01303 817072

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'If you correlate the cuts to police funding it represents 200 officers'

Continued from front page

with overseas aid, ring-fenced there was an inevitability local authorities would bear the brunt.

Both Kent and Medway have already seen 33 per cent reductions to their budgets between 2011 and 2015. The latest cuts will cover 2015-16.

Labour has already confirmed it will be committed to maintaining those spending levels were it to triumph at the General Election in 2015.

There are fears libraries, leisure centres and even some support services for schools will be hit hard. Public sector workers have also been told their automatic pay rises are being scrapped too.

Alan Jarrett, deputy leader at Medway Council, said: "As yet we do not know the full details of what these reductions will mean. As an already lean authority there is no denying that any spending cuts to local government are going to prove challenging."

Zoe Van Dyke is regional director for the union Unite.

She said: "The 10 per cent cut means more people will lose their jobs and have an uncertain future. The Government is rolling back the state.

"Council workers will be very concerned – they are just taking one knock after another. It will leave a workforce under pressure to do more work; employers will be trying to get more out of people that are already over-stressed."

Sir Merrick Cockell, chairman of the Local Government Association, said the budget reduction will stretch essential services to breaking point.

He warned: "Services such as culture and leisure facilities, school support, road maintenance and growth related programmes will bear the brunt of these cuts."

The police force was also left weighing up how to minimise the impact of such another huge blow to its budget.

It came as the force launched six mobile police stations to cover the recent closure of bricks-and-mortar offices in Broadstairs, Hythe, Sandwich, Tenterden, West Malling, and Whitstable.

PCC Ann Barnes warned: "If you correlate the cuts to police funding in Kent, and we think the cut will be 4.95 per cent, that represents about 200 police officers."

"And that's on top of the nearly 500 that have gone already."

"It's obvious the force will do what it

can to find those savings elsewhere, but I don't know where they are going to find them.

"There is just no where else for them to cut... and so it will be people."

Ian Pointon, chairman of the Kent Police Federation which represents the rank-and-file officers, is dismayed.

He told us: "The fat that was in the force has already been cut out. Everything has been cut to the bone."

"All the collaboration and partner agreements possible are set up to save money, such as linking to the Essex force and getting cars from cheaper national sources, so it's only people left to cut."

"The cuts will take us back to 3,000 officers, which is about the same at 1985, but the workload has soared since then."

A spokesman for Kent Police said: "We are awaiting confirmation from the Home Office as to what the budget settlement for 2015/16 will look like."

"Whatever the budget for 15/16 onwards, it is our job to manage within that figure to ensure we continue to deliver a first-class service to the people of Kent and ensure it remains one of the safest places to live in the country."

But while the outlook remains grim,



OPTIMISTIC: KCC's Paul Carter believes services will have to adapt to budget cuts

there was some good news. The long-awaited dualling of the A21 near Tunbridge Wells was told £92 million had been ear-marked for it.

Clr Paul Carter also insists the job remains achievable despite the cuts.

He added: "I am an optimist and I believe that by real transformation and focusing on some of the same principles that have stood us in good stead over the last three years we can get there, but services will look and be shaped differently."

COMING UP IN THE NEXT MONTH

Train to Gain July 7

Looking to get ahead of the rest in pursuit of your dream job or future career? Make this your first port of call.



Convertibles July 14

Is there a better way to enjoy the summer by putting the roof down and hitting the road? We look at the convertible for you.

Oyster Festival July 21

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CONSERVATION

Gorillas beginning new life in Africa

DAMIAN Aspinall bid an emotional farewell to a family of gorillas when they were driven out of Port Lympne Wild Animal Park and flown to the Gabon as part of a programme to reintroduce them to the wild.

The gorillas were sedated and then placed in enormous crates (pictured) before being flown out.

Mr Aspinall, chairman of the Aspinall Foundation, and son of John Aspinall, who founded the park, said: "This represents a massive step in the unique ambitions of our foundation, which has always been passionately committed to restocking natural habitats with species which have become critically endangered, largely due to the ravages of mankind."

See our leisure section for the full story.



DEATH

Boy, 13, dies after fall

TRIBUTES have been paid to a 13-year-old boy who died this week after he fell through the roof of an abandoned flour mill as he attempted to retrieve a football.

Cameron Tidey, 13, fell some 20ft on Tuesday afternoon at the site in Margate Road, Ramsgate.

Taken by air ambulance after being revived by paramedics, he was rushed to a London hospital with extensive injuries. His life-support machine was switched off on Wednesday.

SPORT

Tredwell leads country

JAMES Tredwell became the first Kent player to captain England since Chris Cowdrey in 1988 when he led the team for its T20 game against New Zealand on Thursday night at the Oval.

But his moment of glory lasted for just two balls as the weather forced the match to be abandoned.

Tredwell replaced the injured Eoin Morgan.

CRIME

Jail for vile child images

A 37-year-old man has been jailed after admitting 20 offences relating to indecent images of children.

Daniel Delany was sentenced to three years and four months behind bars after police seized a laptop from his home in Railway Street, Gillingham with more than 2,000 indecent images and 34-hours of video footage.



FOOD

Serving up the cream of the crop at Wimbledon

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

WITH a service faster than that of Andy Murray, a farm near Maidstone is delivering 30 tonnes of strawberries to the home of British tennis, just hours after they have been picked.

Hugh Lowe Farm in Mereworth has for the last 20 years been supplying the fruit to the caterers to be served up during Wimbledon fortnight.

Those visiting SW19 are this year paying £2.50 for a bowl of ten strawberries – but the good news is that due to the long winter, the current harvest is proving particularly tasty.

Marion Regan, 51, who manages the farm with husband Jon, 54, explains: "As spring was the coldest for 50 years the strawberries flowered very late this year, but that has actually helped the timing of the crop which now coincides neatly with the Wimbledon fortnight."

"Also, food grown slowly generally tastes better and this year's strawberries have had plenty of time to develop their flavour and grown to a good size."

"In fact I think the berries are of the best quality right now and probably the best we have ever supplied."

Mrs Regan says it's their south-facing slopes which make it ideal for snagging the right amount of sun for their Elsanta variety.

Teams of 35 pickers are now pretty skilled in selecting only the very best for Wimbledon, so



POPULAR: Strawberries and cream are one of the best loved parts of a day at Wimbledon

they have a good shade of scarlet over the entire surface, and can easily be sliced with a spoon without turning to mush.

She added: "We use a section of the farm which is between five and 10 hectares out of the 130 total, just for our Wimbledon product."

The freshly-picked crop is transported to the London venue each morning, in order to be ready for the day's play.

Wimbledon continues this week with the women and men's finals next weekend.

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LEGAL

Hammer killer Stone's legal fight

After trials, appeals and several unsuccessful attempts to prove his innocence of the murder of Dr Lin Russell and her daughter Megan in 1996, a leading barrister says Michael Stone's attempts of a reprieve could go on until his dying day. **Marijke Cox** looks at the case which refuses to fade



HAPPIER DAYS: The Russell family before the attack. Father Shawn and Josie now live in North Wales

A LEADING barrister says there is nothing to stop hammer killer Michael Stone continuously trying to get his conviction quashed despite a top judge calling for an end to his repeated attempts.

Stone is currently serving life for the brutal murders in 1996 of Dr Lin Russell and her daughter Megan, six, as they walked home from school across picturesque country fields in Chillenden, near Canterbury.

Josie Russell, aged nine at the time of the attacks, was left for dead, but made a remarkable recovery. It was a crime of vicious brutality which stunned the nation as all three were attacked with a hammer.

Oliver Saxby QC, of Six Pump Court Chambers, Temple and chairman of the Kent Bar Mess – the association for barristers practising in the county – stressed, however, it was likely Stone had exhausted all grounds of appeal and had therefore “reached the end of the road”.

It follows a plea by Mr Justice Haddon Cave who, after rejecting the latest application for a judicial review earlier this month, warned former heroin addict Stone that after two trials, two appeals and two further unsuccessful challenges, it needed to end.

The latest appeal, bankrolled, bizarrely, by a museum devoted to fictional detective Sherlock Holmes, challenged a key piece of DNA evidence in a bid to further strengthen claims the terrible crimes may have been committed by Levi Bellfield, the killer of schoolgirl Milly Dowler.

Stone, who lived in Gillingham, was convicted of bludgeoning Dr Russell and her daughter Megan to death, and the attempted murder of Dr Russell's elder daughter Josie in 1996.

He has always protested his innocence and the case has remained shrouded in contention, primarily due to Stone not being forensically linked to the murder scene, but also because of the controversial witness statement by fellow inmate Damian Daley claiming Stone had confessed to him through a crack in the wall between their cells.

Doubt surrounding this confession saw Stone's 1998 conviction quashed by the Court of Appeal and a retrial ordered. He was convicted again in October 2001, but has consistently, with the help of his supporters, challenged authorities over the verdict. And despite the unsuccessful trials, appeals and applications to the Criminal Case Review Commission (CCRC) and Divisional Court, those proclaiming Stone's innocence insist they will continue the fight.

John Riley, from the London-based Sherlock Holmes Museum – a privately-run attraction with its own justice department working on cold case reviews and alleged miscarriages of justice – claims the lack of Stone's DNA at the scene is key to overturning the conviction.

Mr Saxby, however, told KoS it was likely Stone had exhausted all potential grounds of appeal. He also pointed out previous appeals had not uncovered anything new.

“It seems as though Stone has exhausted all potential grounds of appeal and so it's very unlikely there's any ground of appeal out there that's going to work.

“In other words, unless absent, fresh, reliable evidence positively probative of innocence, for example the ‘real killer’ coming forward, it would seem as though he's reached



KILLER: Stone has always claimed he is innocent the end of the road.”

“There's no law preventing a convicted person putting pen to paper and submitting what they have to say to the Court of Appeal/CCRC.

“He can continue to send ‘grounds of appeal’ until his dying day and no court has the power to stop him doing so.”

But that's unlikely to work, says Mr Saxby. Mr Saxby said funding and representation would also be difficult, and stressed that any appeal has to go through a “sieving processes”.

“For instance, before an appeal is heard by the Court of Appeal, a High Court judge considering the papers that have been submitted has to be persuaded there are arguable grounds of appeal,” he said.

“If they are not, the appeal is rejected and although in such circumstances a defendant has the right to argue his case before the full court, any such application in this case is likely to be dealt with perfunctorily, as you can imagine.”

During the latest challenge by Stone, Mr Justice Haddon-Cave highlighted the numerous appeals and challenges by Stone and made it clear it must end to give Josie and her father Shawn, “finality”.

Sebastian Payne, a lecturer at Kent Law School, based at the University of Kent, said if Stone has the funds he can make any legal claim he chooses.

“All that will happen if the action is hopeless or it tries to review or appeal grounds that have already been dealt with is that it will be rejected at the preliminary stage,” he said.

“There is always the possibility of an individual being declared a vexatious litigant although this does not sound like a likely scenario in this case.”

A vexatious litigant is someone forbidden to issue proceedings in a court due to repeatedly filing challenges and losing.

The Sherlock Holmes Museum's Mr Riley told KoS he required the help of Kent Police to allow him to look at forensic test results to corroborate a partial DNA profile he has from evidence at the murder scene.



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Levi Bellfield

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'has reached the end of the road'



Summer's walk home that ended in brutality

IT WAS a crime which shook the nation, particularly the sleepy Kent villages surrounding the scene where such unimaginable horror took place.

Tied to a tree and blindfolded, Dr Lin Russell and her daughters, Josie and Megan, on their way back from a swimming gala, were brutally bludgeoned by hammer-wielding Michael Stone.

The three were just a mile from their home in Nonington; walking through the picturesque countryside on a summer's afternoon, passing through fields and along a quiet country lane in Chillenden, near Canterbury, with their dog Lucy.

It was in a leafy copse beside this lane where the scenes of violence and murder took place, where Dr Russell bravely tried to fight off the attacker to protect her daughters and where Josie tragically heard her mother's last breaths as her mother succumbed to severe head injuries.

Both girls and their dog were then dealt multiple blows over the head by Stone.

It wasn't until eight hours later their bloodied bodies were discovered after Dr Russell's husband Shaun, a lecturer at the University of Kent in Canterbury, raised the alarm after finding his family missing.

Josie, believed to be dead, was miraculously alive, clinging to life, but slipping in and out of consciousness. Suffering severe head injuries, for nine months she was left unable to speak.

But it was the aftermath of the killings and the controversy over Stone's conviction which has kept this crime in the headlines.

After a huge manhunt and almost daily national headlines, police made an arrest.

Jobless Stone was well known to the police; a heroin addict with a criminal record stretching back to when he was just 12 years old.

He was jailed in 1981, for robbery and grievous bodily harm after attacking a gay man with a hammer. Two years later he was sentenced to more than four years for stabbing a sleeping victim in the chest.

Stone was jailed again in 1987, this time for armed robbery, but walked free in 1993.

He funded his drug habit by driving around Kent and stealing technical equipment.

According to a friend, he knew the Chillenden area "like the back of his hand" and a witness saw a car matching the description of Stone's around the time of the murders.

Stone, then 37, was arrested a year after the killings following a tip-off that he looked like the e-fit of the perpetrator. He pleaded not guilty, but was convicted in October 1998, after another inmate at Canterbury prison – Damien Daley – claimed Stone confessed to him through a crack in the wall.

However, doubt surrounding this confession, saw his conviction quashed by the Court of Appeal and a retrial ordered. He was convicted again in October 2001.

Doubts persist, however, with no DNA linking Stone to the scene and key bits of evidence subsequently going missing.

The police and the prosecution service, however, are satisfied the right man is behind bars.

He wants to find out if it matches that of another hammer killer Levi Bellfield, who was jailed for the murder of three girls, including Marsha McDonnell and Milly Dowler, in 2008.

Mr Riley said there had been no forensic evidence linked to Stone, not on a bootlace found – which was supposedly used as a tourniquet by Stone and later lost by police – a dog lead or Josie's towel, torn into strips by the perpetrator to tie up the victims.

"The case is likely to have to be returned to the CCRC in due course on the basis of the DNA, on the towel strips, which was discovered in 2010," he said.

"Like the DNA found on the one metre-long black boot lace, which was detected in the early investigations following the crime, the DNA on the ends of the towelling strips is not Michael Stone's. The DNA belongs to somebody else – but who? It is the key to solving the case."

He added: "Any miscarriage of justice and trying to get a conviction quashed is an uphill struggle. We're not trying to spring Stone out of prison. We're trying to find out what really happened to get justice for the victims."

Kent Police confirmed it had been approached by the Sherlock Holmes Museum who, alongside Stone, had made an application for permission for a judicial review earlier this month.

But the force stressed it would not be examining new information in relation to the murders and attempted murder.

A police spokeswoman said: "The CCRC had access to all items examined forensically, all documents and exhibits from the original investigation, the review by another force, two Crown Court trials and appeals. They made any further examinations they deemed necessary."

"No profiles were matched or partially matched in comparison to the national DNA database."



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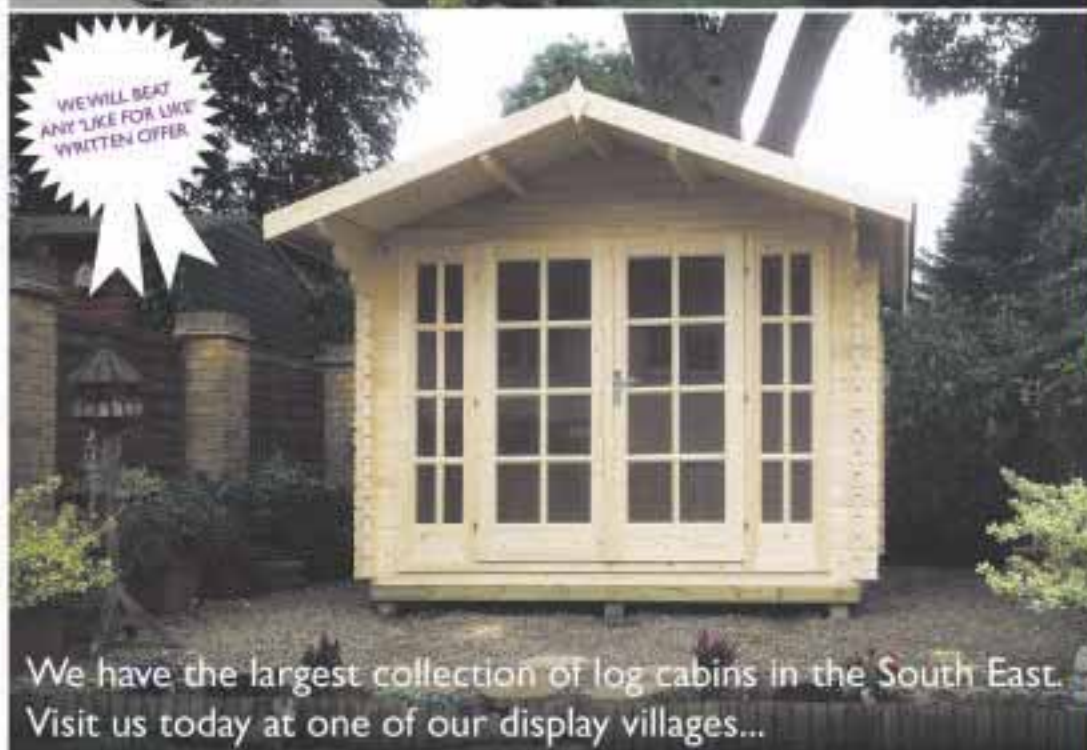
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ROYALTY

Her Majesty's fond farewell to 'her Highlanders'

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THE Queen paid a special visit to the county on Friday to bid farewell to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland – better known simply as the 5 Scots.

Arriving at the barracks in Canterbury by helicopter and dressed in lavender with matching hat, Her Majesty met members of the battalion and attended an emotional final parade.

Also in the audience were family members of the troops and civic guests.

While the clouds were heavy, the weather did not spoil the occasion. She spent three hours at the site, enjoying a luncheon held in her honour.

Arriving just after 11.45am, she was flown out of the site just before 3pm.

As a result of cuts to the defence budget, 5 Scots is reducing from a battalion to a single public duties incremental company to be known as Balaklava Company.

It will return to Scotland where it will conduct mainly ceremonial duties.

Howe Barracks – its home for the last ten years – will be sold off.

Major Oli Dobson, officer commanding Balaklava Company said: "It was an historic day for the Argylls and we are incredibly proud of our association with Her Majesty.

"We have a long and honourable tradition as a battalion which Balaklava Company will now carry forward."

With a history dating back to 1794, 5 Scots is



Pictures: KM GROUP/ROYAL ROT A

ON PARADE:

The Queen inspects 5 Scots during her farewell visit to the barracks, while friends and family of the soldiers look on



an air assault infantry battalion.

Its forbears were dubbed the 'Thin Red Line' at Balaklava during the Crimean War and won six Victoria Crosses in one day at Lucknow during the Indian Mutiny.

In the last decade they have deployed to Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Queen became Colonel-in-Chief on the occasion of her 21st birthday and has taken a very close interest in "her Highlanders" ever since.

■ On Tuesday, the battalion conducted a parade through the streets of Canterbury, with thousands lining up to wish them well. The march ended at the cathedral for a private service.

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EVENT

Road chaos casts dark cloud over airshow's successful comeback

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

ORGANISERS behind the South East Airshow are examining the huge problems experienced by visitors stuck for hours in long tailbacks trying to reach the event.

And on Wednesday they confirmed those ticket holders who could not reach the site because of the queues, would get their money back.

The show promised an array of exciting highlights, with aircraft including the iconic Vulcan bomber taking to the skies.

But roads leading to the show at Manston Airport were gridlocked and tailbacks stretched as far back as the Thanet Way several miles away as thousands tried to access the event.

Some angry spectators were stuck in their cars for three to four hours, subsequently missing Saturday's show, which was returning to the venue for the first time in 20 years.

Others, who were able to, turned back and didn't even attempt the rest of their journey.

Adrian Pigott, from Maidstone, had been given tickets by his children as a Father's Day present. But it took him more than five hours to make the 41-mile journey.

He told KoS: "The problem was obvious to everyone; they had sold more tickets than they had available car parking spaces.

"We left Maidstone at 11.15am and arrived there at 4.30pm. It was simply horrendous.

"My two young children were having to pee in bottles in the back of the car, as it was too dangerous to let them out of the car with traffic creeping slowly forward and flying past at speed in the opposite direction.

"This is an event we'll forget as quickly as is possible."

Penny Williams, from the Big Plan Group, one of the companies behind the event, said it was a "big shame" as it had taken away from the success of what she described as a "great" show.

She said: "There were thousands of people who really enjoyed themselves and this brought a lot of money into Thanet, but unfortunately the problems with the traffic have overshadowed it.

"Traffic is an issue and we'll be looking at what happened. What we've seen from social media sites is that everyone seemed to have a different experience.

"Some people left at 10am and had no trouble

getting in while other people who left at the same time were stuck in their cars for four hours.

"We have to look at every case individually."

Organisers AS Enterprises and Heritage Events apologised and confirmed a "full debrief" was taking place to examine the issue.

A joint statement said: "All parties recognise the problems people faced travelling by vehicle to the South East Airshow and apologise to those who experienced long delays and were unable to attend the event."

Those who paid up to £12 for a ticket but couldn't get in will be able to claim a refund or free tickets to other events.

Airport chief executive Charles Buchanan was quick to distance the venue from the organisers.

He said: "We provided the airport to organisers Heritage Events and AS Enterprises as the location for the airshow and they undertook the planning, parking, stewarding and on-the-day management of the event. The airport's role was limited to managing the movement in and out of the various aircraft by our air traffic controllers and operating the aviation activities."

But Thanet and Kent County Council Labour member Will Scobie said the problems "should not take anything away from the hard work that (went) into making the airshow possible".

But he stressed he would call for an investigation into the traffic chaos.

"We need to make sure we get it right to protect Thanet's excellent reputation as a tourist destination and to make sure it does not happen again."

For those did manage to gain access, a world-famous delta wing Vulcan bomber aircraft was at the show in what was likely to be its last-ever year of flying displays.

Aircraft from the RAF and air forces from across Europe and America were also on show.

Spectators were able to have a close-up look at the planes on the ground, as well as enjoy a Typhoon aircraft simulator, a funfair and stalls.

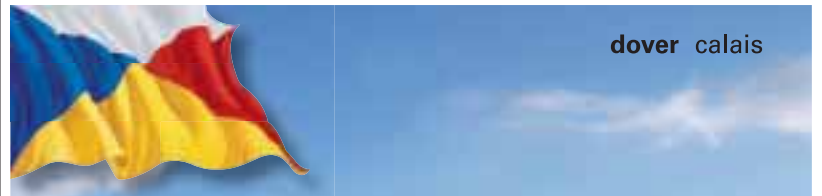
If you were unable to access the site and had purchased tickets in advance through the Heritage Events website, organisers say they will offer free replacement tickets to two future events – the Combined Ops Show on August 17-18 and to the Southern Model Show on September 14-15, or a full refund.

Unused tickets should be sent by registered mail to: Heritage Events Ltd, PO Box 1252, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 9LQ by the end of July.



Picture: ADRIAN PIGOTT

NO-GO ZONE: Many of those visiting the airshow were stranded as tailbacks went on for several miles



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BIG DRAW: The 'Vulcan effect' drew many aviation enthusiasts for a close-up view of the iconic bomber



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News

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CRIME

'Wishing' post box swiped by metal thieves

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

CHILDREN were in tears after a special post box where they could post their birthday and Christmas wishes was stolen from a back garden.

The owners, Katrina and Chris Connell were stunned when the £350 replica red box was stolen from their property near Faversham.

The couple bought the old church and churchyard in Boughton Hill, Dunkirk, complete with all the graves dating back to the 19th century.

Mrs Connell said: "Our old house had a huge fireplace that my nephews and nieces used as a location for their Santa wish-lists.

"But then we moved here. The children asked where they could post their wishes, so we bought this six-foot tall post box and placed it in the back garden. My husband cut it down to size so they could reach.

"Even the neighbour's children started to use it. They had to read the notice on the front which said every wish would be considered, but not every one could be granted.

"Then we were approached to have a memorial put up at the edge of the property so families who had relatives buried here had somewhere to visit. It was just after that the post box was stolen. It has left the children distraught.

"I just want the post box back; it is only a replica. It may have been stolen for scrap."

The theft happened between June 10-14. It is made of metal, painted red and is embossed with the gold lettering G V I R Post Office.

Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Michael Kingwell on 07870 252158 or call Crimestoppers, anonymously on 0800 555111.



SNATCHED: Post box

COURT

Vile sex fiend is jailed

A PAEDOPHILE from Faversham who admitted raping a child and possessing child abuse images has been jailed for 14 years.

Keith Vincent Livermore, of Colegates Court, Oare, pleaded guilty to offences including two counts of raping a girl under 13.

CRIME

Cops threaten bikers

BIKERS who cause a nuisance have been told by police their vehicles will be destroyed if they continue to cause trouble.

PCSOs have targeted youths riding illegal mopeds and pit bikes in the Chalkwell and Milton Regis areas of Sittingbourne.

DEATH

OAP dies in bike crash

A 70-year-old man has died after walking out in front of a cyclist in Madeira Walk, Ramsgate.

The victim sustained a serious head injury and was taken to King's College Hospital in London, where he died of his injuries overnight.

The rider of the bike sustained a minor injury.

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REGENERATION

Dreamland's roller coaster ride continues as heritage park opening date is put back to 2015

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

IT HAS been plagued with delays and uncertainty, so it came as no surprise when the visionaries of the world's first heritage theme park project were dealt another frustrating hand.

This time it came in the form of yet another delay, caused by an error in the compulsory purchase order (CPO), subsequently pushing the opening date of the long awaited re-imagining of the Dreamland park back from 2014 to 2015.

But the brains behind the ambitious project insist it's not a setback – in fact, it has bought them a little more time to make sure the park is everything the community dreamed of.

Jan Leandro, heritage and engagement manager at preservation group The Dreamland Trust, says it is essential the community buys into the vision, with the trust refusing to put up hoardings while it develops the 16-acre site to allow everyone to keep tabs on what is going on.

But so far the trust – which will lease the site from Thanet District Council – has technically been "locked out" while the authority took legal action to acquire the site through a CPO from owners, the Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company.

An administrative error has now led to a subsequent delay, but those behind the project – including designer Wayne Hemingway – are



GOOD OL' DAYS: Dreamland Trust will create the first heritage theme park on the popular old site

taking it all in their stride.

Ms Leandro explained: "There is an upside to having to delay the opening – it would have been a real rush to get the park ready for 2014.

"The actual delay is just two months, but it means putting the opening off until 2015.

"But the lead-in period will be just as exciting. "Having some delays has allowed us to watch

Turner Contemporary and what's going on in Margate, to allow us to think about what we need to deliver.

"The project is not just about the amusement park. We think Margate could become a great festival destination.

"We started out with a business plan, but we're reviewing that."

LONG RUNNING SAGA

DREAMLAND opened in 1920, and played a pivotal part in Margate's tourism heyday.

During the 90s many of its big rides were dismantled and it finally closed in 2003, opening briefly each summer until 2005.

A preservation group, The Dreamland Trust, was set up to save the park and its Grade II-listed roller coaster, the Scenic Railway, which in 2008 was partly damaged in an arson attack.

A joint project was launched, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Government's Sea Change programme and funded and supported by Thanet District Council, to create a heritage theme park boasting rides including the Caterpillar, Wild Mouse and a fun-house.

But plans have been hit by delays, as the council struggled to acquire the site from owners the Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company. A battle ensued with the council submitting a compulsory purchase order. The owners launched a High Court appeal, but this failed and Thanet council emerged triumphant.

The project looks likely to cost more than £10 million.

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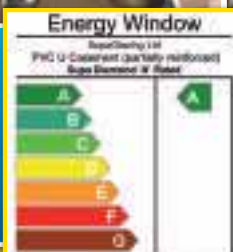
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POLICE

PCC confirms £90k chief of staff

FORMER RAF executive Mike Stepney, 41, has been appointed to the £90,000-a-year chief of staff post by Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes.

The appointment - announced last week - was rubber-stamped by the Police and Crime Panel, a

committee which scrutinises her decisions when it met on Wednesday.

Mr Stepney will now take up the statutory post, the equivalent of chief executive, at the end of July. He said: "I'm looking forward to getting my teeth stuck into the job."

TOURISM



ROUTE FINDER: Legendary actor Brian Blessed boarded the open-top bus for a trip down memory lane through Medway

A Blessed relief for tourists as bus benefits from Brian's booming voice

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

HE IS most famous for his booming voice, and this week legendary actor Brian Blessed came to Kent to lend his distinctive tones to a major new tourism attraction.

The star of stage and screen is providing the voice-over for a new open-top tour bus which will take visitors on a guided trip around the streets of Medway.

And he admitted he was no stranger to the region, having visited the area often as a child.

Those on board will be able to listen to the 76-year-old as they take in such historic sites as Rochester Castle, the Historic Dockyard Chatham, Fort Amherst, Rochester Cathedral and the Brompton Royal Engineers Museum as they travel on the hop-on, hop-off service.

In a career which stretches back to the BBC's Z Cars in the 1960s, Mr Blessed has gone on to appear in everything from movie versions of Shakespeare to providing the voice for Boss Nass in Star Wars Episode One: The Phantom Menace and, memorably, as Prince Vulcan in 1980's Flash Gordon.

And on Monday he flew down to take a trip on the bus himself, alongside costumed characters, celebrating Charles Dickens' many links with Medway.

Mr Blessed said: "History lives and breathes in Medway. I used to come here as a kid on my bicycle, and go all around to places like Rochester Castle, which for me is just beatific."

"It's amazing."

"It's the best Norman castle I've ever seen. And with the cathedral alongside - every nook and cranny is history."

The bus tours will run on a trial basis, starting this weekend.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Read the 100-word story winners, selected from nearly 2,000 entries

IT ATTRACTED a huge number of entries and next week the winners of a 100-word short story competition will pick up their prizes.

The contest, organised by Kent County Council and supported by this newspaper, set a simple – yet tough – challenge: write a story in less than 100-words. Entries flooded in across the age groups, and all the winners will collect their prizes at a special presentation in Maidstone next Thursday.

A spokesman for KCC explained: "The competition, which ran throughout May as part of Share

a Story month, was open to four age groups and led to more than 1,800 entries being submitted by post and online."

Editor of this newspaper, Chris Britcher, who along with chief reporter Marijke Cox judged the youngest age category, was impressed with the high standard of entries.

He said: "Writing a story in 100 words is no easy task – but some of the methods used by the children were really impressive. There was a very encouraging use of imagination and story-telling."



CHALLENGE: Kent County Council organised the story writing event

THE FULL LIST OF WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP

Age: Year 2 and under
Judges: Kent on Sunday

Winner The Bee

One day there was a bee. He was very sad because he had no friends and flowers to visit.

People had covered their gardens with stones.

The bee asked me to help him. I planted lots of flowers for him and his friends.

He is now a happy bee thanks to me and gives me all his honey!

By Kiera Conrad-Pickles,
East Peckham Primary

Runner-up Walking the Plank

As I stood nervously, high above the crashing waves, I could feel the pirate's sword pressing me in the back.

The evil Captain Brown Beard had caught me days earlier, hiding amongst some barrels at the bottom of the ship. Now I was being made to walk the plank.

I could hear the angry pirate shouting: "Get off my ship, stowaway!" As I stepped closer to the edge, I felt the spray on my face and tasted the salty water on my lips. With one final stab of the pirate's sword, I plunged into the sea.

By Willow Heenan-Todd,
Blean Primary

Runner-up Cruncher the Friendly Shark

Cruncher was a friendly shark, but because he was so big, everyone was afraid of him.

One day Cruncher saw a scuba diver. Cruncher went to say 'hello', but the diver was scared and hid in a wreck.

Cruncher watched for a long time, but suddenly the diver stopped blowing bubbles. Cruncher knew something was wrong. What could he do to help?

Cruncher bravely broke into the wreck and gently grabbed the diver in his huge jaws. He then turned and swam to the shore, where he carefully placed the diver on the sand.

"Thank you Cruncher" said the diver.

By Zoe Howard,
East Peckham Primary



Age: Years 3-6
Judges: KCC education

Winner Untitled

The human brain is a miracle of nature, a mass of cells functioning in unity.

Not only would the loss of a life be grieving, but the memories. All someone's ideas and thoughts, lost like tears in the rain. By moving a finger half an inch.

Dimitry Yenov was painfully aware of this as he had a gun wedged between his shoulder-blades.

The wielder, a burly man who fancied nothing more than a pint of gin.

"Car - now!" came his rasping accent. Dimitry held no resistance. And walked into his own coffin...

By Jacob Farrell,
St Peter's Tunbridge Wells

Runner-up Untitled

She sat in the dark room, silent, sat in the dark house, silent.

She sat in the dark city, silent, sat in the dark world, silent.

She sat with ebony hair, she sat with piercing green eyes, she sat, like a cat.

She stood up, prowled around the room. She stood up, prowled around the house.

She stood up, prowled around the city. She stood up, prowled around the world. She lived in a dark age, in a dark world. A dark life. But when Aoife closed her eyes, the whole room, house, city, world, lit up.

All was well.

By Mia McMillan,
Blean Primary School

Runner-up The Dark and Stormy Night

It was a dark night, a storm was howling and the rain was pouring.

The van spluttered to a halt, the petrol dial on red.

There were six passengers, and they tried to decide which of them would push. Four of them got out of the van. Suddenly there was a rustling sound in the bushes behind them and they saw a bear charging towards them.

They jumped back into the van, extremely scared. Looking out the window, they saw the bear come closer and noticed something in its paws... it was a can of petrol for them.

By Ewan Fittall,
Pembury School

CRIME

Was man in your car?

POLICE investigating a string of vehicle crimes around St Saviour's Road in Maidstone want to hear from a motorist who found a man apparently rolling a cigarette while drunk in his car.

Police say the incident happened last weekend in St Catherine's Road, but the man has not come forward.

Officers believe he may have valuable information in finding those responsible for up to five incidents.

CHARITY

Tribute to boat victim

DOUG Kergall from Chatham and his pal Tom Bore from London are to complete 500 miles of cycling in one month in honour of friend Michael Russell, involved in a near fatal accident whilst working in Gravesend.

Mr Russell, port manager at Gravesend, was crushed by a 40-tonne boat earlier this year and remains in hospital.

The duo will raise funds in his honour.



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News

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CHARITY

Great Kent ride begins

SOME 1,000 cyclists are set to take part in a charity ride through the Kent countryside this weekend to raise funds for charity.

The Great Kent ride will raise money for the East Kent Hospitals Charity, which raises money for medical equipment. Taking place on Sunday, June 30, there are two different routes - one 35 miles, the other 60 miles.

For route and details: www.bike-events.co.uk.

CRIME

Threatened with gun

A COUPLE were put through a horrifying ordeal when they woke to find two men in their home - and when they challenged them were threatened with a gun.

The incident happened in Swain Road, Tenterden, in the early hours of last Friday, June 14. The crooks forced them to hand over cash before escaping in a yellow car.

FUNDRAISER

Round the world jaunt

JAMES Ketchell and 50 scouts will cycle into Dover on Sunday night as part of the first 70-mile leg of a round-the-world fundraising jaunt.

Mr Ketchell, 31, from Basingstoke, aims to raise £18,000 for charity; becoming the first man to have ever rowed the Atlantic, climbed Mount Everest, and cycled the globe, covering some 18,000 miles in the process.

Continued from page 17

Age: Years 7-11

Judges: Waterstones, Maidstone

Winner Untitled

He sighed. Through his window he could see the protesters below.

Their contorted faces screamed at the sky, their anger burning against the invisible authority, who remained insistent that 'together, we are building our future'. The shattering of glass tinkled through the symphony of enraged screams and percussion of marching feet.

The fury of the riots whipped through the nation, a world gone mad, left to escalate and erupt in the streets.

He sighed again and began to write; as if his words of contemplation could ever heal the mess that lay before him. "August 2013..."

By Eleanor Hennebry,
Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School

Runner-up Untitled

"You know it's really hard to live with a violinist for a neighbour. Especially one who cannot play the violin to save his life!" said a woman passing the revolver to a policeman.

By Rita Bondarenko,
The Malling School

Runner-up Untitled

This white sheet of paper between my fingertips contained my future. Each word, a portal to suc-

cess. I felt heady with both exhilaration and fear. My hands clamped excessively tight and as if I could force out extraordinary oozing of fortune out of the cavity in the envelope.

I could hear my heartbeat throbbing erratically in my ears. At this point I felt a surge of bitterness, how can society put so much emphasis on results? It all seems so futile. As I consciously tore open the page, relief. I had done it.

By Jasmine Eskenzi, JCoSS

Age: Adult

Judges: KCC libraries

Winner Shattered

Sergeant Rubenstein asked the ashen-faced woman again,

"C'mon, why would ya take a tire-iron to fourteen cars in a parking lot?"

Silence and a far-away look.

Officer Maria Gonzalez slipped into the interview room.

"You got something against cars, lady?" Rubenstein continued... "All that random crap!"

"I'm not so sure it was random, Serg," whispered Gonzales, "all the cars had bumper stickers."

"Bumper stickers! Oh, don't tell me... Democrat? Republican?"

"Not exactly."

"So, c'mon, tell me, what did they say?" "They all said 'Baby on Board.'"

They both looked at the woman, now crumpled and sobbing quietly to herself.

By Ian Palmer, Whitstable



Runner-up Untitled

Out of the corner of my eye, I see her. But then she's gone again. It feels... it feels... like I should know her. They tell me I should know her. My wife. It's my wife. Or at least that's what they say. I'm not sure anymore. Not sure. But I feel more at ease, somehow relaxed. Yes. It's that smell. Nice. I remember. I remember. It was our wedding day. That's right. Our wedding day. She was in blue. Or was it white? It was blue. Yes. In the evening. We danced. Yes, I remember. I remember.

By Andrew Kidd, Barming

Runner-up Untitled

"Yes, this will do perfectly," said Lilly to her husband Michael. "It's a beautiful house." He agreed. So they moved in straight away.

They did have many visitors, but they never stayed long. Michael and Lilly had long periods of just being happy together in their home.

One day they heard people talking in the hallway. Both shocked they hid at the tops of the stairs listening. They saw a man talking to a young couple.

"The rumours you have heard are completely unfounded," said the estate agent. "I can assure you there are no ghosts living in the house."

By Tricia Brady, Westgate-on-Sea



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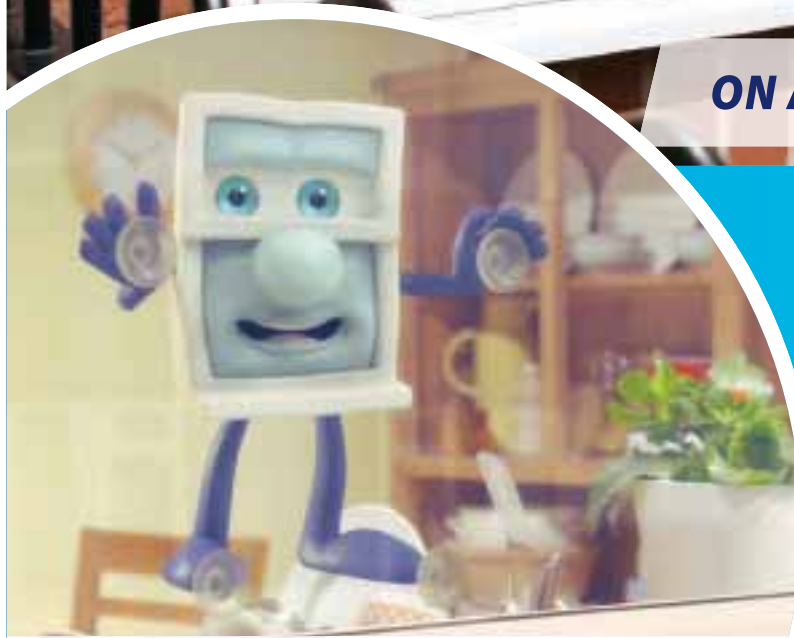
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TRANSPORT

Furious response as council chief insists a third crossing should only be in Gravesend

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THE leader of Dartford council has told residents in the borough they should all take part in a consultation over plans for a third Thames crossing – and told them all to vote for it to be in Gravesend.

Unsurprisingly, his comments have sparked an angry war of words, with the leader of Gravesham council saying the views are “insupportable”.

There are three options put forward by the Government: one at the site of the existing Dartford crossing; one at the Swanscombe peninsula; and a third option east of Gravesend.

But Conservative Jeremy Kite at Dartford Borough Council has made it clear he doesn't want his town to take the strain again. There are fears if Swanscombe was selected it would torpedo plans for the highly anticipated Paramount theme park and the creation of thousands of jobs.

Cllr Kite said: “Personally I think we should wait to see what difference free-

flow tolling makes before jumping to a conclusion about a new crossing, but the Government have launched this consultation and Dartford people really must express a view.

“What motorists need, what the economy needs, and what Britain needs is for the Government to show courage and invest in the right solution – not just a convenient one.

“A huge amount of the freight traffic that passes across the current crossing is headed north and it would be good for the economy to allow it to cross the Thames as early as possible.

“That means a crossing east of Gravesend and it can only mean option C.

“The second issue is one of resilience. At the moment delays can be caused not just at the crossing itself, but by problems on the M25 on either side.

“Putting a new crossing at the same site simply doubles the opportunities for things to go wrong and offers no resilience when things grind to a halt.

“I am calling on all residents and businesses to respond to the consultation

making clear that Dartford cannot accept another crossing.”

However, Gravesham council, led by Labour's John Burden, has hit back.

He said: “I understand Cllr Kite would be against two of the proposals, but his views are insupportable. The Gravesend options would rip a gaping hole in the green belt and potentially decimate the environment and the communities of Chalk, Shorne and Higham.

“He wants the Government to show courage – I want the Government to show a little common sense and put off the decision until after the Dartford toll booths are removed to ascertain the true scale of the problem. I urge people to use the consultation to state firmly that none of the options are acceptable.

“A crossing east of Gravesend would potentially endanger important environmental sites and lay to waste historic communities. Worse, it would open the door to developers who would use this new corridor to fill in the countryside. Once such a disastrous decision is taken the area would be blighted forever.”

Trio found hidden inside caravan

THREE would-be illegal immigrants were stopped from catching a ferry to Dover in the early hours on Thursday after Border Force

officers found them hiding inside a caravan at the French port of Dunkerque. A man, woman and 12 year Afghan boy were found.



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ENTERTAINMENT

From TV dramas to top movies, how Alfie, 11, is joining the big names

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

HE'S quizzed one of the world's best-known actors about Beatles' trivia, appeared in an Oscar-winning movie and is preparing to star alongside one of the UK's top comedians in a new Channel 4 series.

Not bad for someone who is only 11-years-old. But Alfie Davis is getting used to the limelight after success in a string of auditions has seen him selected to appear on TV and cinema screens.

His biggest role was as a young French boy in blockbuster movie *Les Misérables* and later this year he'll appear alongside Greg Davies – star of *The Inbetweeners* and *Cuckoo* – in his new show, *Man Down*, also featuring Rik Mayall.

He is also well paid earning anything from £300 to £1,700 for his appearances.

But he's not enjoyed the fruits of his acting skills just yet – all the money he makes is being saved for his future.

Alfie, who lives in Herne Bay with his two older brothers and attends Hope View School in Chilham, said: "I used to love watching movies and I really wanted to be in them, so Mum found me a drama school to go to.

"I do get quite embarrassed when I watch myself. I get nervous, I don't like it.

"But I love learning the scripts. Most of the time I just learn it in front of my Dad, and he says to do it like this or that. He knows how to be a good actor, but he can't do it himself."

When on the set of *Les Misérables* for five days, Alfie, who plays one of Gavroche's urchins on top of the giant elephant, challenged Hollywood star Russell Crowe to a quiz about *The Beatles*.

"He started asking me questions, but I didn't know half of them," he said. "He was cheating though because he was asking the questions before I realised I hadn't asked him any."

Alfie's mother Jan said her son has always been outgoing, but never envisaged where it would lead after joining Kent Youth Theatre, based at Kent College in Canterbury.

She said: "I think he was always destined to do acting; even at playschool he liked to go in and dress up. When he's at home he likes to watch DVDs of James Bond, Doctor Who and Only Fools and Horses, so it's quite a variety he likes.

"We have got the DVD of *Les Misérables* and he saw it three times at the cinema. I was so proud; you cannot believe that is your child on the screen or on the television. It's amazing."



ROLE PLAY: Alfie (right) on the set of *Les Misérables* where he met Russell Crowe, on set with David Dawson, and Greg Davies (below)

HAVE YOU SPOTTED HIM?

YOU may recognise Alfie Davis from a string of roles. They include featuring in:

TELEVISION

- Camelot and Southcliffe – Channel 4
- Little Crackers – Sky 1

- The Mystery of Edwin Drood – BBC

FILM

- Les Misérables

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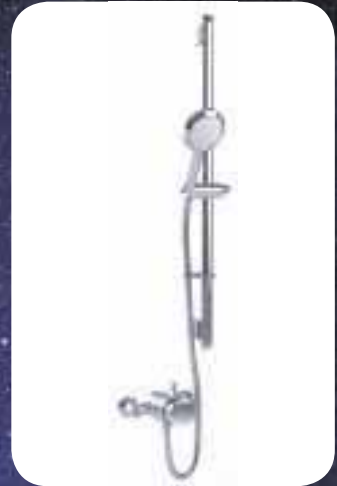
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News

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MILITARY

Harrowing picture for war artist as Taliban bullet threatens his career

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A WAR artist who may never paint again after he was struck by a Taliban sniper while in Afghanistan is back home this weekend after a hugely traumatic two weeks.

Graeme Lothian, who could not use his right arm after breaking his back in an earlier fall, was hit in his left arm.

The bullet tore through the flesh down his arm, exiting his left palm and hitting a soldier in front of him.

After receiving emergency treatment in the field and at a medical centre in Afghanistan, the former member of the SAS and Parachute Regiment, was flown back to the UK where he has undergone a series of operations.

After more than a week in hospital he returned to his home in Sevenoaks earlier this week.

Doctors have said he should recover much of the feeling in his hand, but it remains uncertain if he will be able to continue painting.

But despite the shot potentially ending his career, the Sevenoaks artist was thankful for small mercies.

He said: "A little to the right and I would have been dead."

Mr Lothian had returned home at Christmas last year, following an earlier tour of the war zone and had told his wife, Dr Sameena Shakoor, that he was never going back.

HISTORY IN THE PAINTING

WHEN KoS previously spoke to Graeme Lothian, he admitted some of the scenes he witnessed could be grim while in Afghanistan recording the recovery and immediate treatment of injured servicemen.

He told us: "I will see a lot of blood and some horrendous things."

"The doctors will be doing what they are doing, like trying to mend an artery, but I will be looking at it as an artist. I think I will be a detached from what is going on."

"This is history in the making and I will be there to record it as an artist."

His resolve didn't last for long, however.

The consultant paediatrician told us: "Within two weeks he wanted to go back out again because he said he didn't get enough front-line action."

When asked how lucky the 53-year-old was, the doctor said: "Lucky the three previous times he was out there he didn't get hit?"

"Or lucky that he didn't get hit and killed this time?"

Since being hit by the sniper's bullet on June 16, he had been recovering in the military ward at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham. He now has plates holding together shattered bones.

His wife added: "He is very left-handed because he had a previous injury to his right when he was in the Army."

"The bullet which hit him went down his left arm and out of his left palm, doing a lot of damage on the way."

He underwent three separate operations in a bid to repair the damage, and his arm and hand remain heavily bandaged.

The war artist of 30 years explained: "When it happened my initial reaction was just to get

away from the danger. But then I noticed my arms was covered in blood."

Dr Shakoor said: "He is still keen to portray the Army well and show what they are doing out there and produce something for posterity."

"He is also planning a book and wants to get

some sponsorship for that, so he is still thinking ahead."

"While he was in theatre at the hospital, Prince Charles was on his ward, and Graeme was upset he missed him as he wanted to ask the Prince if he would do the forward in the book."



WORRY: Graeme Lothian may never paint again

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ADVERTISERS ANNOUNCEMENT

CANTERBURY DOCTOR BRINGS NEW HAEMORRHOID TREATMENT TO BRITAIN



A Canterbury doctor, **Mark Hudson-Peacock**, is introducing a new haemorrhoid treatment to the UK.

Many people who suffer from haemorrhoidal disease (piles or HD) do not seek treatment because of embarrassment or fear of the pain and disruption that treatment could bring.

HD is very common – 50 per cent of people in the UK suffer from HD at some stage – but it is something many people wouldn't speak about, even with their family or doctor.

However, treating piles is extremely important, not only to avoid suffering but also for the early detection of other diseases such as colon cancer.

When he learned of a treatment for HD that is neither painful nor disruptive, Dr Hudson-Peacock resolved to bring it to the UK.

There is no need to suffer in silence. Ultroid® Technologies, based in the

US, has developed a treatment that is non-surgical and painless and has been clinically proven over a number of years.

It is the only treatment that can be used on all four grades of HD.

"The treatment is non-invasive and performed in the privacy of a clinic. There is no need for anaesthesia, surgery or prolonged hospital visits," said Dr Hudson-Peacock.

"Other methods of treatment are frequently painful and can be followed by complications such as infection and clots. With the Ultroid® treatment, there are no complications and you can return to work right after the procedure. Most people experience immediate relief, with further improvement over the next 7 to 10 days."

Graham B, another Kent resident, was Dr Hudson-Peacock's first Ultroid® patient. Graham said: "I could not believe it. The discomfort I had suffered for 20 years was gone in less than half an hour.

"I'd tried banding before, but this had been excruciatingly painful and didn't work because the bands fell off. Ultroid®

was quick – I only felt slight pressure during the procedure and was back to work straight away. Brilliant! If you ask me, it was like a minor miracle."

The Ultroid® System delivers a very low direct current to the haemorrhoid, causing a reaction that shrinks it. The treatment takes only about 15-20 minutes.

Dr Hudson-Peacock is offering the Ultroid® treatment at his clinic in Canterbury. Other surgeons are being recruited to make Ultroid® available throughout the UK.

Further information can be found at www.ultroiduk.com.

Further details:

The most common symptom of piles is rectal bleeding, which can appear as blood on toilet paper, drops of blood in the toilet or blood on the stool.

Also, as the muscle and tissue support of the haemorrhoid weakens, internal haemorrhoids can bulge out of the rectal canal and become visible. This can cause hygiene problems that may result in itching.

If you have any symptoms that may make you think you are suffering from haemorrhoidal disease, you should consult your doctor.

HD is more common in older people. Other factors associated with HD include pregnancy, poor diet, constipation, obesity, heavy lifting and excessive straining.

The Ultroid® treatment carries the approval of the US FDA, CE and TUV. Numerous studies have shown the procedure to be safe and effective, particularly compared with invasive and surgical procedures (such as haemorrhoidectomy, stapling, Halo treatment, laser therapy and sclerotherapy) and also in comparison with the most commonly-performed non-surgical alternative of banding.

For further information, contact:

Dr Mark J Hudson-Peacock

26 Castle Street

Canterbury CT1 2PX

Phone: 01227 472288

Email: info@ultroiduk.com

Piles

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01227 634922 *Why suffer in silence?*

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KENT REMEMBERED



STRANGE: Patricia Windross says there are many theories as how the skulls ended up at St Leonard's

Macabre mystery of church's 2,000 skulls

By Nick Ames

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ST LEONARD'S Church has an enviable view; peering down over the town of Hythe and out to the English Channel beyond.

Yet despite its picturesque nature, it houses one of the county's great mysteries: just why are the skulls and bones of around 2,000 Kentish men, women and children piled neatly in its crypt?

Are they simply the remains of those interred in its cemetery hundreds of years ago, or is there a more intriguing story behind it?

Could they be pirates, warriors or even plague victims? All have been investigated over the last 350 years.

Earliest references to the human remains come in the 1670s, when the Reverend Brome, chaplain to the Cinque Ports, described "an orderly pile of dead men's bones" in St Leonard's Church.

Theories over the years as to how they came to be resting in the churchyard vary.

A drawing in 1787, states that they are what is left of "Danish pirates slain in battle" while a note attached to an illustration in the 1860s, refers to them as "men who fell in the Battle of Hastings" in 1066.

Another story says they are all victims of the Black Death which swept England and decimated villages on Romney Marsh in medieval times.

"We actually do not know why they are here," said Patricia Windross, wife of the Rev Tony, the town's vicar.

"But those theories are very unlikely. We do know the remains are around 700 years old and were most likely first stored in the charnel house in the churchyard before being moved to their current location."

Charnel houses are used to store the bones of bodies uncovered when digging graves.

A survey in 2009, shows a higher proportion of female skulls to male and around 10 per cent of them from juve-

niles – extremely unlikely if they were pirates or warriors.

Also Black Death victims were most often buried in quicklime to ensure rapid disintegration.

Mrs Windross said: "The most likely theory is they were simply Hythe residents who died over a long period of time and had been buried in the churchyard, and were reinterred when the church was extended – first in the charnel house and then in the cellar.

"Soil samples show they were all local people and it is possible they were simply put on display to attract people to the church, as it was on a pilgrim route.

"Some do show signs of being the victims of violence: one skull has evidence of a cut from a broadsword and a wound where the pommel of the sword was smashed into the head."

The remains show Hythe was not a prosperous place in the Middle Ages as many of the skulls show symptoms of iron deficiency in the bones, caused by a poor diet. The standard of teeth is better than would be expected however, as sugar was absent from foods of the time.

As well as the skulls, the crypt – technically called an ossuary – contains thigh bones and other remains all stored in an orderly manner.

This was done around 100 years ago by soldiers based at the nearby Shorncliffe Barracks, but there is no evidence as to how they were arranged before.

Mrs Windross said: "There are some lovely stories attached to the skulls.

"One pair – which we now know are from children – were once thought to be those of performing dwarfs from a circus while another skull was returned to us four years ago, after it had been stolen half a century before.

"It is believed it stood on someone's desk for all that time before friends of the person who acquired it did the honest thing and bought it back. It is now yellow for some reason – because who ever put it on display smoked, some say."



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OPINION

Could long 'freight' be over?

Chris Welsh, of the Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association, highlights why Eurotunnel needs to drop its charges

AFTER years of the Freight Transport Association (FTA) urging Eurotunnel to lower its freight access charges the time may finally have come for change.

While the relevant rail freight market has tripled in size over the last quarter of a century, the volume moved out of Britain has failed to grow.

Why? Because rail freight charges are far too high.

Currently freight trains using Eurotunnel pay a far higher price than that those on Network Rail in the UK.

This is why the FTA has now welcomed the European Commission's 'reasoned opinion' against the UK and French Governments' freight track access charging.

The European Commission said that high track access charges mean rail freight companies cannot afford to send more freight through the Chan-

nel Tunnel, and that the tunnel is not being used to its full capacity because of these excessive charges.

As a result, more freight is being carried on lorries instead of by rail, freight operators and their customers are being over-charged, and passengers are paying over the odds for their tickets.

The decision by the commission was based, in part, on the findings of a report 'The impact of Eurotunnel tolls on through rail freight' commissioned by the FTA in June 2011, to analyse the effect of Eurotunnel's freight charges on the transport industry.

The report was sent by the FTA to the European Commission with the request to open an inquiry on the freight tolls and pricing strategy, claiming these breached European Union rail freight directives.

The report (prepared by MDS

Transmodal Limited) showed that a 40 per cent cut in rail freight tolls would lead to the number of trains passing through the tunnel per direction per day, rising from around six to 14. If tolls were cut by 75 per cent, then the number of trains, including those with a lorry trailer, would rise to around 41 per direction through the tunnel, assuming a 300-day year (all the working days in the year).

This would allow rail freight volumes to achieve their potential, generating significant environmental benefits. The transfer of around 640,000 unit loads per annum to rail could save around 250,000 tonnes of CO2 per annum.

We at the FTA welcome the European Commission's decision, which reinforces our argument that Eurotunnel's totally inappropriate pricing regime has potentially been in contravention of the EU



6699

There is massive interest by retailers in using rail freight through Channel Tunnel

charging directives.

We are now calling upon both governments to change the existing arrangements in order to promote the use of rail freight through the Channel Tunnel, which would help meet the commission's objectives of moving freight off roads and on to rail.

There is tremendous interest by retailers in using rail freight through the Channel Tunnel as part of their supply chains.

This can bring carbon savings; but they cannot be expected to do this if it is at a negative financial cost.

So reducing Channel Tunnel freight track access charges, and therefore the cost to the end customer, is critical.

Now seems an interesting time by the EC to review freight charges and the FTA hopes the full potential of the Channel Tunnel for cross-Channel rail freight will soon be realised.

KOS COMMENT

Understand the limits of the non-stop cuts

WE HAVE all become rather blasé at the swooshing of the Coalition's axe to our public services.

And this week we were told to brace ourselves for yet more.

We seem to accept the need for some tough fiscal decisions and put up with them. The big question is when we finally emerge blinking into a future where the nation isn't broke, will we still have the basic state-run infrastructure to rebuild?

There is, of course, an argument that says politics and ideology may lurk at the heart of some of the decisions. That remains to be seen.

What we must guard against is the loss of services which once they go we may never again see return.

A regal treat for troops

IT WAS wonderful to see the Queen in the county again this week – for the first time on an official visit since she and the Duke of Edinburgh made a special visit to the Turner Contemporary in November 2011.

Here's hoping her next visit is not so long in the future.

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Lower Halstow with Grain in the background
by Gary Foord, Rainham



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Responsibility a pipe dream

MP MARK Reckless quite rightly wants PCC Ann Barnes to take some responsibility for Kent Police fiddling the crime figures.

Dream on, Mark; you have more chance of meeting the tooth fairy...

And what do the assistants the PCC appointed after the election actually do?

Michael Vick, Sittingbourne

Politics root of PCC attack

IT IS disappointing, but not surprising, to read the vitriol being directed by politicians towards PCC Ann Barnes.

Like many others, I did not support the introduction of

police and crime commissioners because I viewed it as a blatant attempt to 'politicise the police'.

That view was further confirmed when the poor quality Tory candidate for the post in Kent was soundly beaten by Mrs Barnes, then didn't even have the good grace to offer any more than a 'grudging' recognition of her victory.

Now we see Conservative politicians, still smarting over the fact they failed to get their candidate elected in 'true blue' Kent, cranking up the ante by questioning every decision Mrs Barnes makes and taking every opportunity to denigrate her.

I would say this to all those who are already questioning their decision to vote for her – give her more time.

Don't be misled into thinking she is not up to the job by political propaganda,

such as that churned out by MP Mark Reckless.

There will no doubt be plenty more rhetoric before the next PCC election is due, and it will only get worse as that draws closer.

Make your judgement on her record nearer the end of her term, not on statements made by politicians endeavouring to ensure it is only politicians who hold the post, so they can be called upon to toe the line if they even hint at making any decision or introducing anything that is not in accordance with their party's policies.

Christopher Hudson-Gool, Maidstone

Immigration benefits who?

I WOULD like to know how Keith Taylor (Opinion, KoS)

gets his information to laud and praise the benefits of immigration?

He must have a short memory because a few years ago a House of Lords team decided the annual benefit of one migrant was worth about the price of a Mars bar. Mr Taylor obviously knows better.

Is he – like most of the political classes – sucking up to the migrant vote?

And could he mention just one of the 'benefits' we have derived from mass immigration, apart from the low-cost wages which have benefited farmers, unscrupulous factory sweatshops and landlords, and have put many thousands of our own youngsters out of the job market?

He obviously ignored the headlines that since Labour opened our borders to Eastern Europeans, nine out of 10 jobs went to migrants.

But he doesn't want you to know that. Like so many of the political class who don't live in the real world they only see immigration as votes.

Harry Williams, Hythe

Bombing raid vivid memory

A RECENT letter writer in your newspaper asked for people's memories of the bombing of Canterbury.

I was just eight-years-old at the time and lived in Ash, near Sandwich.

I vividly remember my mother and father and I going out into the garden. Planes were flying overhead and there was shrapnel whizzing through the air. Looking towards Canterbury there was a huge orange glow in the sky.

It was decided it would be wise to go into the Anderson

shelter which was situated in a neighbour's garden which was shared between several houses. It was the only time we used it.

Ian Cornelius, Walmer

Police should look the part

RICHARD West's letter concerning police uniforms has prompted me to write.

When the black uniforms were first introduced, I wrote to the chief constable to complain police officers now resembled the thugs they were there to apprehend and that, far from commanding the respect of the public, they now appeared intimidating.

The reply was that the original white shirts left a vulnerable, easily recognisable, gap between the stab-proof vests (black) and the trousers (also black).

However, since the members of the Met Police wear white shirts and are surely more likely to be attacked than officers in more rural areas, this excuse did not hold water.

Now, in addition, fluorescent outer garments are de rigueur, leaving once highly-revered officers resembling street sweepers.

Incidentally, there is no option to wear smart uniform on the street, this is reserved for use in court.

I spoke to an officer who was disgusted with the new uniform and would gladly have worn the original on duty, had it been permissible to do so.

The time has come to restore our respect for police officers by dispensing with scruffy and cumbersome clothes and returning them to their smart and functional uniforms.

V Hemsley-Flint, Sittingbourne

Flagging up a lack of pride

I READ Richard West's letter with great interest – he is so right in what he said.

The British police are a poor shadow of what they were 20 years ago.

I visited Canterbury recently and noticed both the fire and police stations did not bother to fly the Union Jack for the Queen's official birthday.

The discipline has all but gone. There's no pride anymore.

G Wanstall, Dover

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Fax 01303 817002;
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CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067

59YR old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easy-going, GSOH, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071

PAULINE, passionate, intelligent, discreet married lady seeks discreet special man of any age, call for more info. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 339087

JAYNE 44, bored, underappreciated pretty blue eyed intelligent lady seeking fun and interesting professional in similar situation to me for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403011

LISA blonde, blue eyes, looking for male, 42-54 for fun and romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404877

LADY 57, away with the fairies, looking for her wizard and enchantment. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403093

LIZ blonde blue eyed curvy female, considered attractive, tactile, sensual, enjoys music, entertaining, nice people, seeking well educated professional 50-60yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402773

DISCREET kind man sought by married lady, must be discreet and reliable as am I. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box 355785

JO 29 tall slim female who loves soap, animals, shopping, being a mum and am looking for 40's male with GSOH who will appreciate a tactile, loving female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402765

52YR old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891

SUE 65, slim, animal lover, 5ft, blonde, likes socialising, meals out, theatre, countryside, happy go lucky, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405767

SLIM N/S female, 54, working, reliable, easy going, likes nature, animals, seeks nice male company, 50-64 for country/seaside walks and meals out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405745

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine, N/S, solvent lady, young 50's, likes travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, Military/professional gent of high calibre. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405707

JACQUELINE 79 widow, easy going, good listener, not slim or neurotic, OHAC, Sevenoaks, lonely would like gentlemen's company. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405533

ATTRACTIVE female, 53, N/S, 5ft 8ins, looking for similar male, 50-55 who loves countryside, animals and is easygoing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405421

AMANDA 44 blonde, blue eyed, very leggy, fun to be with, honest and caring seeking kind, considerate honest gent 74-79 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405315

NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774

LISA 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, nice personality, trustworthy, kind, likes cinema, nights in, walks, music, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404751

CLAIRE looking for adventurous male to live life to the max and enjoy adult fun times with. Can give me a call. Any age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402993

GILL 41, shy, lonely single country loving female with no ties, OHAC WLTm n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402799

AMANDA 36yr old single female, blue eyes, curvy, really pretty with lovely smile, looks nice, nights out, WLTm loving male for dates and hopeful ltr. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402787

DIVORCED female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275

21YR old slim figured female, no ties, looking for male 30-45yrs for non committed relationship, discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402761

CHRIS petite attractive brunette, enjoys social drinks, meals out, theatre, seeks hardworking professional male looking for adult attention too. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402759

5FT female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeks caring, dedicated guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915

MALE 48, 5ft 10ins, medium build, likes gardening, cinema, reading, WLTm lady. Thanet area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404295

LYN happy, young looking 72yr old, seeking interesting man, 65 plus to enjoy life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403101

SANDRA outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230

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GEORGINA widow, WLTm gent, 60-80 with GSOH for days out, friendship, companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067

SHIRLEY 32 attractive nurse, enjoys good food/wine, keeping fit, looking good, searching for non committed relations with mature well-dressed man. Any age/looks/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402779

DOG lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417

COUNTRY loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899

SINGLE mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751

60YR old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523

REBECCA kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273

FEMALE seeks Prince Charming, 20-30 to sweep her off her feet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891

ANNA very lonely divorced single mum with lots of love to give seeks similar caring male who also wants to find the right person, any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403481

LISA 39yr old tall slim blonde with GSOH and a wicked sense of humour, employed, OHAC, looking for similar male who enjoys life as much as I do. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403391

47YR old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287

DELILAH 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older gent, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769

SUSIE young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421

MARGARET 57, looking for male companionship with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390248

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521

SINGLE mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329

48YR old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797

WIDOW 70's, many interests, seeks gent who misses companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 396401

SHAY 39 looking for fun loving male to brighten up my world! There must be someone out there prepared to take on a feisty attractive professional with OHAC, money in the bank and a great body! Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403341

JACQUELINE widow, 82, easy-going, not ugly or neurotic, good listener, caring, loyal, seeks gent, 60-80 for conversation, company and outings. Sevenoaks, car driver. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403397

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35YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, easy going, likes music, films, reading, walks, looking for female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405941

MEDWAY male, 60's, solvent, seeks attractive lady, 55's, GSOH to wine, dine and share the good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405429

OUTGOING professional, fun loving, entertaining male, seeking warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405633

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, interests, seeking lady dance looking for lady to spend life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405519

RONALD 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211

ACTIVE 60's semi-retired man, OHAC, GSOH, enjoys theatre, dancing, singing, amateur dramatics, coast, gardening etc., WLTm n/s female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404671

SHARON 37yr old size 10 attractive feminine blonde, divorced with OHAC, seeks nice male who like me is fed up with being on their own. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403351

KATHY genuine good/young looking lonely female, fit with good figure, seeking man to fall in love with, enjoy adult companionship and happy times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403349

MARY likes most things, nights out, socialising, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383847

JACQUELINE 82, widow, car driver, not slim, ugly or neurotic, seeks interesting, caring gent, 70 plus for talk and company. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403659

BEV very attractive lady who loves cosy nights in, seeks caring man who can put the spring back in my step and twinkle back in my eye, call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403353

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843

MICHELLE petite fun female, outgoing, enjoys holiday abroad, OHAC and pretty self-sufficient, looking for someone to share a LTR with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399515

70YRS young male, good looking, GSOH, seeking lady for love and affection. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403455

FIT fellow, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857

STEVE 64, active, likes fishing, swimming, karaoke, honest, genuine, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405717

CANTERBURY sign language interpreter 58, 5ft 10ins, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, seeks slim-medium build female, 21-42 for LTR. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405697

TALL friendly, light hearted, single, 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR with mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405557

RETIRE male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589

DAVE 45, 6ft, large build, ginger hair, green eyes, caring, OHAC, likes laugh, cinema, pubs, restaurants, walks, shopping, music, dvds, gardening, animals, seeks female of similar age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405451

BRUCE likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Children/animals welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404537

THANET male, young mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive local soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403729

MICHAEL slim, 44, likes CD, films, seeks older male 55 plus for fun times in the Thanet area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404373

PAUL 49 5ft 8ins likes eating/nights in/out seeks loving female for ltr. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404013

DENNIS 53yrs retired police officer living in Kent, WLTm female for mutual fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404201

GARDENER 50, 6ft, honest, happy, single, fit gardener seeks attractive younger lady for fun NSA nights in, weekends away, country walks, picnics and good conversation. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404115

SALVATORE 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481

KEVIN 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405

KEVIN 50 6ft average build, kind, caring, GSOH, black hair, hazel eyes, various interests, seeks female 35-55 for friendship/romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405087

VIC mid 60's medium build male, active, N/S, likes countryside, DIY, seeks compatible female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405085

CHRIS from Folkestone, 68yrs young widower, N/S, 5ft 9ins, OHAC, likes country music, rock n roll, WLTm N/S female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405079

CHRIS 68, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271

40 something Gemini 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, varied outdoor interests, seeks similar outgoing female, 30-45 for dates and LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404535

TED 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913

FUN fit, 60yr old male, seeks older, well-built female for no strings discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404971

TONY 50, likes nights in/out, football, fishing, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394506

PRETTY petite lady sought by older, professional businessman, looking for LTR and loyalty. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394530

PETE 55, good looking, 6ft 2ins, open minded, seeks attractive female, 45-60 for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394294

CHRIS 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271

YOUNG mixed race male, seeking female for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402499

AARON 35, no ties, 5ft 9ins, clean shaven, attractive, Italian background, chef, down to earth, open minded, likes meals out, weekends away, socialising, cinema, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402497

TALL 64yr old young at heart N/S male, widower, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401531

TONY retired, GSOH, likes indoor life, dvds, seeking N/S lady, 65 plus, likes countryside for friendship. West Sussex area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401481

TONY 50, likes nights in/out, football, fishing, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394506

PRETTY petite lady sought by older, professional businessman, looking for LTR and loyalty. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394530

PETE 55, good looking, 6ft 2ins, open minded, seeks attractive female, 45-60 for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394294

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PETER looking for male, 30-60 for casual fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406049

THANET male, mid 60's, inexperienced, seeks male of similar age for occasional meetings and mutual interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405863

BI guy, CD, 57, OHAC, seeking similar for mutual fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404907

EASY-GOING guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267

BI male, senior, clean shaven, Maidstone area, seeks bi male, N/S for occasional meets, must be discreet, 45-55. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402393

DAVID 66, retired, fit, looking for man, 59 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402249

STEVEN 63, looking for LTR with man, 59 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402147

BI guy 45, seeking similar bi guy for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402093

THANET male, mid 60's, inexperienced, seeks male, any age for discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401915

BI male, seeking easygoing bi male/CD, 18-55 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401891

STRAIGHT male, 40, Medway, seeks sports buddies into table tennis, golf, snooker and pool. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405417

MALE early 80's, fit, active, many interests, seeks similar male for friendship and company. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401621

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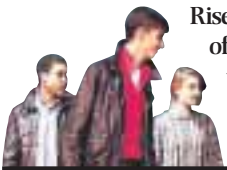
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American Dream... again

By GREG MILES

FOUR decades spanned, two best-of albums under their belts and more festival sing-a-longs than you can shake a muddy welly at, but there are no signs of slowing down from The Proclaimers.

The legendary Scottish twins Craig and Charlie Reed are in fact more active than ever in their 51st year, 26 years on from the release of their debut album *This Is The Story*.

This weekend alone they will be bus-ing in and out of Glastonbury before a jaunt down to Poole in Dorset as a precursor to their date at the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone on Friday.

And to top it off they are releasing

'Most acts are only known for two or three songs – it's better to be known for that than not at all'

their second best-of album on Monday.

It is perhaps quite fitting, then, that their trip to Kent comes 25 years after their last visit to the Leas Cliff Hall in 1988. That was the same year that they released their second record, *Sunshine On Leith*, which features cult classic *I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)*.

There is still plenty left in the tank, though, as Craig, the younger brother by half an hour and pictured left in the top picture, said: "I was quite happy with turning 50 – and 40, in fact. The only one that bothered me was my 30th birthday."

"Between 1994 and 2001 we didn't do anything in terms of releasing a record. That was bad in many ways, but it meant that when we came back we weren't jaded and still wanted to do it."

"We will be touring until the middle of October, then we'll take a break and start writing again. We still want to do it. If you have the desire, that's half the battle."

"When you're on tour you value the days off, especially when you get older. We are doing at least two shows a week-end and you rehearse midweek, then travel. It gets quite busy and time-consuming. You learn to pace yourself with the more you do."

Touring is still their bread and butter and includes the plethora of summer festivals that Craig feels plays a big part in attracting newer fans who probably were not even born when they started out in Fife.

"Playing live is the best thing for us," said Craig. "It's always different, but it depends if you're headlining. We're at Glastonbury this weekend and doing a shorter set – at our own shows we've got an hour and a half."



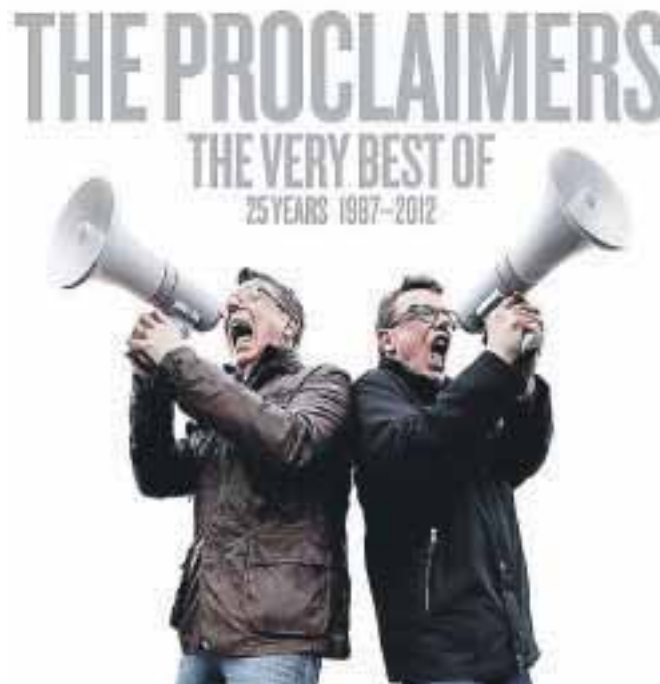
So many miles

The Proclaimers still enjoy their live performances after more than a quarter of a century entertaining us

"We've not done every one, but we've done most festivals. There are a couple of rock ones we will never get. There have been so many in the 2000s that

have come and gone. The best way to get new fans and build on it is to play live."

"There are people at festivals who



MAKE A DATE

The Proclaimers are playing at Folkestone's Leas Cliff Hall on Friday, July 5. The show starts at 7.30pm.

Tickets are priced at £29.40. To book, visit www.atgigtickets.com.

Their album *The Proclaimers, The Very Best Of (1987-2012)*, is out on Monday, July 1.

It features 30 tracks from each of the band's nine studio albums, as well as new song *Not Cynical*.

aren't there to see you, but you can win them over and it's a new audience."

Despite that, they will not be hanging around at Glastonbury this weekend.

"I would never pitch a tent at a festival – I'm too old for that. If it's a smaller one, you hang around for a few days, though," said Craig.

"Glastonbury is so hard to get into and out of. We will get in at 2.30pm and by 8pm we will try to get out because trying to get out later when *The Rolling Stones* have finished will be impossible."

Sure to be on the set list is what has become the unofficial Scottish national anthem, *I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)*, but there is no resentment at being pigeon-holed because of its huge success.

"I think *I'm Gonna Be* and *Sunshine On Leith* were big records. It's good we had them – it built and gave us an audience. Obviously, not everybody stays with you, but it's one I'm very glad we had."

"Most acts are only known for two or three songs anyway – it's better to be known for that than not at all."

Last year they released their ninth studio album, *Like Comedy*. The second best-of album, which comes 13 years

'Playing live is the best thing for us. It's always different'

after the first, is justified, Craig believes, five records having been released since 2000.

"Obviously, you pick the ones that were actually hits to be on it," he said. "It's a matter of choosing the songs that best reflect what we've done since our last best-of. We've tried to make it like a live show with the running order."

Despite the big milestone age last year, no midlife crisis involving the buying of a Ferrari appears to be on the horizon.

"I don't think so, as I can't even drive. I had a few lessons when I was 17 and working, but then I was unemployed for years and couldn't afford it. I've had a couple of opportunities since then, but it's passed me by now."

"My brother drives, but not much, and the tour manager drives the bus anyway."

Weekender

Features team

Editor: **Dave Mairs**
dave.mairs@archant.co.uk
Tel: 01303 817022

Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk
Tel: 01303 817048



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From fighting crime to writing crime

Greg Miles speaks to the detective constable inspired to put pen to paper after reading the author from the office upstairs

WHEN Lisa Cutts got stuck into reading her latest book, little did she realise that the author had sat for years on the floor above her at work and that it would spark her own writing career.

The detective constable at Kent Police is about to launch her debut crime novel *Never Forget*, inspired by her years of working on the force, as well as a meeting with fellow police officer and best-selling author Elizabeth Haynes.

Utilising her years of experience from the force, she has written a wholly realistic account of a murder investigation.

The main character, DC Nina Foster, attempts to unravel a series of brutal killings while battling her own demons that put her life in danger.

Having enjoyed books her whole life without attempting to write, Cutts began reading Haynes's best-selling *Into The Darkest Corner* and slowly realised that, from the many credits in the book, she must have known the author.

It led to the pair meeting and Cutts being inspired by Haynes, who used to work on the floor above her before setting out as an author herself, to pick up the pen.

"I didn't realise who she was until I got to the end of the book as she had named a lot of people I knew and had worked with," she said. "It became obvious she worked for Kent Police."

"What was quite ridiculous was that she sat in the office above me and we never knew each other. She has become a friend now and her books are doing phenomenally well."

"I started to write and just loved it," said the 42-year-old from Maidstone. "After a couple of months it began to take shape. I certainly didn't think anyone would want to read and publish it. I thought it was one of the best things I had ever done and I was surprised about it."

She had originally set out for a career in law but was swayed towards law-enforcement by her father, who used to work with the Metropolitan Police.

"Law wasn't quite practical enough," she said. "My dad said I would really enjoy [the police]."



HOBBY: Lisa Cutts says writing her crime novel never felt like she was taking her work home with her

It's a job where you like to think you're helping people and doing something good."

Being a serving police officer with Kent's Major Crime Department, based in Maidstone, has certainly given insight into the workings behind solving a crime, but putting the book together has not felt like taking her work home.

"Everything I've written about regarding characters and situations is fictional, but I've kept the facts of law procedures," she said.

"It was a case of letting my imagination run away with me. I made sure it wasn't based on

anything I had dealt with. I wanted to write the story along the lines of police investigating and slowly chipping away and realising who could and couldn't be responsible, rather than writing about the perfect crime.

"It's about how it would happen and how it would be investigated."

"It was a case of picturing if I walked into the incident room tomorrow, how would I investigate it, being a character."

"It is all teamwork – it's never one person. It's not about the spoof detective who does every-



thing. You would be superhuman if you were the only detective working on an investigation."

"It didn't feel like work but a hobby, really. It was never something I thought 'Oh no, I've got to do the writing'. I just launched myself into it, which worked out fine."

"I think really if you spend 30 years of reading thousands of books you have an idea of what you like and you know what would make you happy to pick up a book."

Cutts has already started work on her second book, *Remember Remember*, which is not a sequel but retains the main character DC Nina Foster and is due for release next summer by Myriad Editions.

■ **Lisa Cutts is signing copies of her book on Saturday, July 6, from 10am-2pm at Sainsbury's in Kingsmead Road, Canterbury.**

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Gorillas to Gabon... Aspinall charity shows way ahead for conservation

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

A FAMILY of gorillas have said goodbye to Kent forever and are now settling into their African homeland.

The nine primates from Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, near Hythe, will now call the Bateke Plateau National Park in Gabon their home after being flown there at the weekend by DHL as part of a reintroduction programme.

The head of the group is Djala, who has returned to the jungle from which he was rescued in the 1980s as a baby. Since then he has become one of the largest of his kind in captivity, weighing 200kg and fathering 15 offspring.

He made the 6,000km journey back to the wild with four of the mothers and four offspring, aged between two and six years old.

Djala was orphaned when poachers killed his family. The now-30-year-old silverback was then given to children as a toy but was saved when a helicopter pilot flying over the village saw him being taunted. He landed and rescued him.



THEY'RE OFF! Nine gorillas were checked by vets and crated for transport



Djala and his family are the fourth group to have been reintroduced to the wild by the Aspinall Foundation, which runs both the Port Lympne and Howletts parks, since 1999. They were taken there in specially-made DHL crates on a Boeing 767.

Damian Aspinall, chairman of The Aspinall Foundation, said: "Although we are experienced at reintroducing animals into the wild, a reintroduction of this size is something not to be taken lightly. It has

been years in the planning. This is a massive step in the unique ambitions of our foundation, which has always been committed to restocking natural habitats with species that have become critically endangered, largely due to the ravages of mankind.

"This has to become a core objective for conservation, rather than keeping animals in captivity, where nature never intended them to be.

"The Aspinall Foundation is grateful to everyone who has do-

nated to its work over the years, to the Gabonese government and especially to our partners at DHL. Sending Djala and his family home would not have been possible without all of their help."

To help with the reintroduction, the Gabonese government has supplied a military helicopter and pilot to transport the gorillas, while the conservation charity's expert vet will be with them during their settling-in period.

Phil Couchman, chief executive of DHL Express UK and Ireland, said: "It's no mean feat moving a family of nine gorillas across the world. This is an extremely important cause and a great logistical undertaking – our priority throughout the operation has been the safety and well-being of the animals.

"Our dedicated special-delivery team, which includes staff from across DHL's operation, from aircraft engineers to cargo-handlers, security teams, pilots and drivers, has done an excellent job of ensuring the success of this project.

"We're delighted to have been of assistance to the gorilla family and hope they enjoy their new home."



Staple and O'Keefe lined up for Dartford

THE Specials' Neville Staple is among the first acts announced for this year's Dartford Festival.

Staple, who has appeared in The Coventry Automatics and FunBoy3, will be at the festival on Sunday, July 21, with The Neville Staple Band.

Also taking to the stage, on Saturday, July 20, will be Britain's Got Talent star Jordan O'Keefe pictured. The 19-year-old Northern Irish singer-songwriter was a finalist on the show after winning over the judges with his acoustic version of Katy Perry's Firework. Joining him on Saturday are Not The Rolling Stones, a tribute to Dartford's most famous sons.

Alongside the music on the main stage, there will be a family-friendly mix of stalls, activities and entertainment throughout the weekend.

The festival, which is free to enter, opens at midday and finishes about 7pm on the Saturday, while the following day it is open from midday to 6pm. Visit www.dartford.gov.uk/festival for more details about the event.

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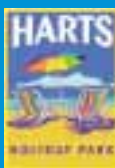
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YOUR WEEKEND

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or www.kentnews.co.uk/leisureTo be included on this page, please email
features@kosmedia.co.ukFestival set to dance
into the record books

VISITORS to this year's Tonbridge Arts Festival could well be walking away as record-holders, with the organisers planning an audacious dancing event.

The festival, which takes place from Friday too Sunday, July 5-7, includes an attempt to set a world record for the number of people doing the Hand Jive in one place.

There needs to be about 400 people taking part to have a chance of the record, the attempt for which takes place on the Sunday at 2pm at Tonbridge Castle.

The festival opens with Queen tribute act Killer Queen, who play on Friday (8pm start) at Tonbridge Castle. Tickets are priced at £20.

There is live music and drama around the town at various venues on the Saturday, while the town's library will host talks by authors.

Kate Mosse, author of *Labyrinth* and *Sepulchre*, will be at K College on the Friday at 2pm to talk about the final part of her *Languedoc* trilogy; tickets are priced at £5.

Visit www.tonbridgeartsfestival.co.uk for full details and to book tickets.

Youth theatre's two decades of acting up

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

WHAT started as a reason for Richard Andrews to take some weight off his knees has turned into a 20-year project that has put Kent's finest young thespians on the road to stardom.

Kent Youth Theatre, based at Kent College in Canterbury, has provided a platform for hundreds of young performers from across the county, putting on countless shows and arranging auditions in the West End.

This year is its 13th as KYT, but it has been going for 21 years under Andrews, initially as Stage Rage, in which time it has become a completely different animal.

It came about as Andrews looked to make a career change while teaching at St Anselm's Catholic School in Canterbury.

"I was the PE teacher at the time and my knees started to go," said the 64-year-old. "I said to the head-teacher 'How about I start drama and take the weight off my knee?' and that was it."

"We started with a few theory exams and it filtered down through the year groups. It took a couple of terms to get the department going. We became a thriving department."

It then turned into an after-school club, first as Stage Rage and then Kent Youth Theatre, which started specialising in acting in 2000.

"The kids wanted more, they wanted something outside of school – that's how Stage Rage started," he said. "We were following the format of three hours every Saturday morning. One hour each of dancing, singing and acting. It's a



YOUNG STARS:

Kent Youth Theatre can boast 20 years of developing the talents of thespians and helping them take their first steps to the stage

fairly established format for stage schools, but we found after a couple of years that they were enjoying more of the acting than the singing and dancing. We started making films and we basically taught them how to be in front of the camera and behind it, as well as on stage."

The work paid off as its students were soon put forward for auditions.

"We have an agency that finds auditions for our students and it's up to them to get the job. We have had people on TV and on stage," said Andrews. "The first big thing that happened was we had someone in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* in the West End – that was the start."

Despite KYT's success, he feels there is a lack of

support in terms of audience numbers, a trend that he hopes can be reversed.

"The sad thing is youth theatre's struggle to get public backing," he said. "Young people are amazing when they go on stage. It would be nice to attract and appeal to a wider audience, but we are fighting so many other TV programmes."

"When you can move people with live theatre, it's so special. I regard it as an extreme sport because they are going on stage, where there is a job to do. You're part of a group and if you cock up you risk everything going wrong."

For more information about KYT, visit www.kentyouththeatre.co.uk or its Facebook page www.facebook.com/KentYouthTheatre.

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YOUR WEEKEND

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LOOKOUT: Paws at the Castle will be held in August

Castle's first dog show
a canine extravaganza

HEVER Castle is set to host its first-ever dog show later this summer.

Paws at the Castle takes place on Saturday and Sunday, August 3-4, and is a weekend for all dog-owners and dog-lovers to enjoy.

There will be the opportunity for hounds and their owners to show off their skills in demonstrations, obedience training, agility and dancing-dog shows.

There are also competitions for canine visitors with the cutest eyes or waggiest tale, while there will also be behavioural experts on hand to offer advice.

The gardens open at 10.30am and the castle at noon. Last admission is 5pm, final exit 6pm. Castle and garden admission prices: adults £15, seniors £12.75, children £8.50, family ticket £38.50. Gardens-only admission: adults £12.50, seniors £10.75, children £8, family ticket £33.

For more information, phone 01732 865224 or visit www.hevercastle.co.uk.Archaeology festival will get
you 'hands on with history'

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

THE county's archaeological wonders will be unearthed at a series of events taking place around the county next month.

The annual Festival of Archaeology is a celebration of Kent's historical sites, with museums, parks and venues opening up to visitors with a range of special events.

It is part of a nationwide campaign to encourage the public to get 'hands on with history'.

TV presenter, historian and festival patron Michael Wood said: "History, they say, is the biggest leisure participation activity in the UK."

"Working with communities, groups and schools, I am struck everywhere by the huge energy and enthusiasm, deep knowledge and high level of skills – and the staggering amount of fresh insight and new knowledge."

"The Festival of Archaeology celebrates that passion and Britain's riches. It gets people out of their armchairs, into the open and experiencing history hands on through archaeology."

At Maidstone Museum, visitors can learn about life and death in Saxon Kent (Saturday and Sunday, July 13-14) with combat demonstrations, ancient craft displays and talks.

The National Trust is carrying out one of its most important conservation projects at Knole in Sevenoaks, with repairs to roofs, walls and floors of the building set to be complete in 2018.

While the project is ongoing, visitors can learn



GOOD AS NEW: See the Knole restoration project

more about it with the National Trust, Museum of London Archaeology and the Council for British Archaeology South East during an event at Knole on Tuesday, July 30.

On the same date an archaeology expert will be at Dover Museum to identify your finds, while the White Cliffs Metal Detecting Club will be hosting a hands-on event there.

On Thursday, July 18, Peter Golding will at Canterbury Christ Church University giving the talk Under Our Feet about local geology from 7.30pm-9pm.

Tours of Roman Dover are taking place from 2.15pm-4.15pm on Sunday, July 28, starting at the Roman Painted House in New Street. For the £2 cost there are tours of both a fort and the Painted House; phone 01304 203279 for details.

FAB FOUR

**Cairo Lodge, Butlers Hill, Dargate**
Sunday, July 7, 8am until late
Email: clare@theusualplace.co.uk
Website: www.cairolodge.co.uk

The Brenda Irving Memorial Show: You can enjoy a family fun day including a dressage event, barbecue, bar, disco, crazy golf and more... and it's all in aid of Pilgrims Hospice.

**Victoria Gardens and Promenade, Broadstairs**
Sat and Sun, July 6-7, 10am-10.30pm
Phone: 01227 700894

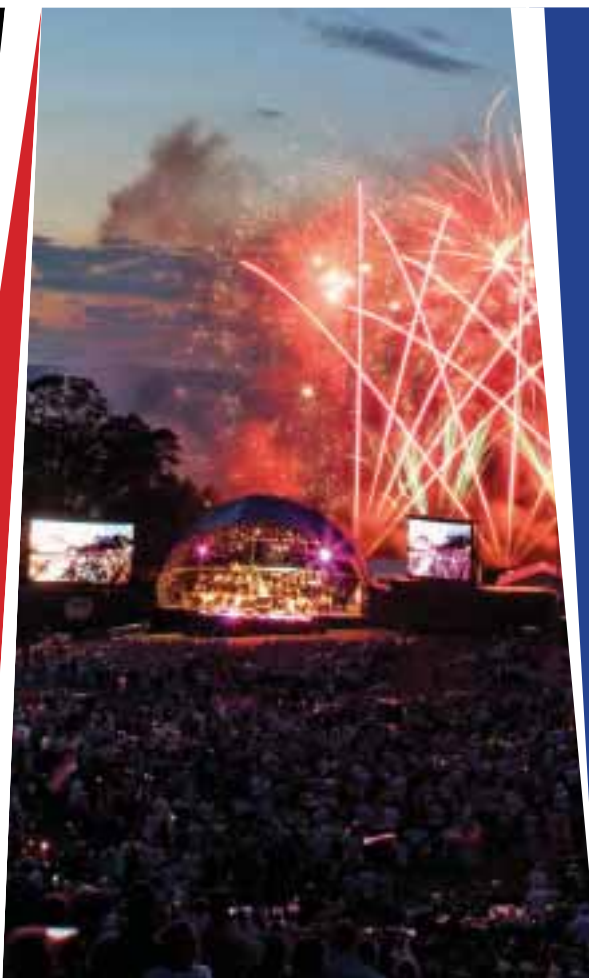
Broadstairs Summer Fair: Free family summer fair, with games and rides for children and adults alike, including crazy golf, crafts and a funfair. Entry is free.

**The New School, West Heath**
Saturday, July 6, 3pm-10pm
Phone: 0845 652 6263Website: www.lawnfest.co.uk

Lawnfest: Billy Ocean headlines this one-day music festival, which includes food, drink and circus skills, at The New School near Sevenoaks. Tickets £25 adults, £12 children 9+.

**The Orchard Theatre, Dartford**
Wednesday, July 17, 2.30pm
Phone: 01322 220000Website: www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

Des O'Connor: The showbiz legend and TV show host will be rolling back the years to present an afternoon of comedy and music. Tickets £19, £32 including pre-show lunch.

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Don't forget your independent village pub for a quality meal

PUB grub has always had a place in my heart, but with the trend for bland chains and the continuing popularity of gastro pubs, I'm often left disappointed by either poor cooking or a bill that should have come from a fancy restaurant.

So I was quite excited when I discovered the Robin Hood. Hidden away among the trees just outside the village of Blue Bell Hill, this is quite simply an independent local pub.

On our Friday-night visit, my guests and I entered the just-the-right-amount-of-busy pub to find a warm and friendly atmosphere before walking through to the restaurant area to eat. In contrast to the traditional feel of the bar area, this was more light and modern.

The menu included a mix of pub favourites with a few other dishes to tempt, while an extensive specials list also appealed, with two of our starters coming from here: garlic mushrooms and breaded Brie, with the Brie being possibly the favourite dish of the day as the contrast of crunchy bread-crumbs and soft cheese made for a thoroughly enjoyable experience.

Our third, baked Camembert, was also a delight but possibly came with too much bread if we were to save room for the rest of the meal.

Moving to the mains, we were a little surprised

RESTAURANT REVIEW



when our three different choices came out served up in the same style, with each item layered on top of the other, rather than alongside, but everywhere has its quirks.

My special of baked cod with samphire was chosen for the novelty value of having no idea what samphire was. As a big fan of fish, I enjoyed this dish although found the texture of the samphire a little disconcerting as it prompted me to wonder occasionally if I was eating a fish bone.

The ballotine of chicken was perhaps the most generous dish when it came to meat/veg ratio and

was very much enjoyed but could have perhaps done with a little more sauce.

As for the sausage and mash, well, what's not to like? By far the largest portion, this was swifly polished off by the man in our group. His only grumble was that he wasn't sure about the addition of beetroot to his plate.

Well fed, we decided to be greedy and attempt a third course, with ice-cream, apple crumble and custard and lemon drizzle cake all ticking the box for traditional pub puddings. These were very tasty, but next time I think I'll choose a starter or a pudding as three courses was rather filling.

While service was slow, with a half-hour wait for our starters, the meal as a whole was a good one. The Robin Hood could not, indeed should not, ever be compared to a posh restaurant, but for good-quality pub food in a welcoming environment it's certainly head and shoulders above its chain rivals. And lingering with a drink at the bar afterwards is a must for a pleasant evening out.

With mains generally priced around the £10 mark or less, our three-course meal worked out at about £26 per person, including a pint or two...

Erica Jones

■ The Robin Hood, Blue Bell Hill, Chatham ME5 9RJ (phone 01634 861500, website www.therobinhood-pub.co.uk)



PARTNERSHIP: Nick Conington and Conrad Bigham

New Margate hotel shifts with the sands of time

THE eagerly-awaited Sands Hotel on Marine Drive in Margate opened its doors on Friday after a year-long refurbishment.

The original Victorian building, which started life as a hotel and restaurant, and was most recently a sweet shop, was snapped up at auction by Nick Conington in 2011.

"I fell in love with Margate the instant I came to view the building pre-auction in September 2011. I was stunned by the glorious views across the sands, the vibrancy of the nearby Old Town and the magnificent new Turner gallery just along the bay.

"I'd originally planned to convert the building into luxury flats but discovered that it had been a hotel in Victorian times and was excited by the possibility of re-creating a hotel and trying to capture some of the building's splendour."

■ You can read the full version of this article at www.kentnews.co.uk/leisure

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And guess what?

This local delight is available exclusively to buy at the Marquis.

So come over and enjoy a glass to start a meal – perhaps take a bottle home with you.





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We are delighted to be able to bring you the very first **Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards**

THE Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards will take place at Tudor Park Hotel on Thursday, November 14, 2013, from 6.30pm to midnight.

These brand-new awards are designed to champion, highlight and offer a showcase to the good and the great from the county's food and drink industry, including local producers and suppliers, small farming businesses, chefs, restaurants, pubs and hoteliers – people who care about the countryside and the future of our local environment.

The companies nominated will all be voted for by you, our readers. We want to know if you've received a fantastic meal at your local pub or have been impressed by the produce and service at your farmers' market or farm shop.

Entry forms are available online at www.kentnews.co.uk.

Entries close on Friday, August 30, 2013.

Our panel of judges will then select a shortlist, kickstarting the independent judging process where finalists will be visited or interviewed to determine a worthy winner in each category.

All finalists will be invited to the prestigious awards ceremony in November, where they will enjoy a Champagne reception and three-course meal based on locally-sourced produce before finding out if they are a winner.

This is the first Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards and we are immensely proud to be able to offer you the chance to reward and recognise the deserving businesses

within our local food and drink industry, the ones that consistently go above and beyond expectations.

These awards are what you make of them so if you are the owner of a restaurant, a budding chef or local producer, then help to spread the word among your clients and visitors.

With our online voting system up and running, it takes no time at all to cast your vote.

The judging panel is looking for quality over quantity, focusing on good comments rather than number of votes, so everybody is in with a chance, no matter how big or small your business is.

Event Partner:



NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR



This popular category is open to anyone in the food or drink business who has started a new venture within the last 18 months. It could be any food and drink business but we want to know what impact they have made on the local community and whether they have started to achieve any success further afield. Are they helping to promote Kent food and drink to a new audience? Tell us who has impressed you.

BUTCHER OF THE YEAR



This category is here for one reason and that is to praise our many local butchers and everything they do for Kent. Consider asking your butcher how their meat is hung, prepared and cut and whether it can be traced to a local farm. Are the staff knowledgeable and helpful? Does the butcher play a key role within the local community? If so, nominate them.

BEST TEA SHOP OF THE YEAR



We recognise that tea shops are an integral part of the Kent food and drink scene and we'd like to know your favourites. Who makes the best tea, serves the nicest cakes and the freshest scones? Is the jam home made and are the sandwiches freshly cut and liberally filled? Most importantly, are most of the ingredients locally sourced? We're looking forward to hearing about your favourites.

INDEPENDENT RETAILER OF THE YEAR



This category acknowledges the hard work Kent's independent food and drink retailers put into giving their customers the best possible experience in-store, reinforcing their role at the heart of the community and showing true innovation with their displays. We are looking for independent retailers who put local and seasonal at the heart of the food and drink experience and who are proud to work with and support the best the Garden of England can offer.

BEST FARM SHOP



Just like our Farmers' Markets, a good farm shop needs to have that extra-special something to tempt shoppers away from their local supermarket. Are the staff friendly and knowledgeable, is the range of produce and the layout of an excellent standard, does your local farm shop offer a box scheme? Is most of the produce sold there grown or raised on that farm, or nearby and if not would the owner be able to tell you where it is from?

BEST FOOD OR DRINK PRODUCER



This category celebrates our local suppliers and producers who play such a vital role in the food community. We are looking for someone who consistently provides a reliable quality of products and services to their customers. So whether it's your local bakery, drinks merchant or meat producer, we want to know why this person or business goes the extra mile for you and gets your vote.

BEST FAMILY DINING VENUE



We've all experienced that sinking feeling when you go out for a meal with the family and you know almost immediately the proprietors and staff would have preferred you to have left the kids at home. We want to know about the exact opposite, those establishments that welcome and treat with respect your whole party, from elderly to very young, and ideally don't banish you too an outer

AWARDS CRITERIA

room away from the main dining area. Do they have high-quality menus that suit every age group, provide high chairs if needed, offer useful distractions such as paper and crayons for younger children to use at the table? Is there a children's play area and good baby-changing facilities in the toilets? And most importantly is the food of an excellent standard and worthy of mum and dad as well as the younger members of the party? Tell us all about your best family dining experience in Kent.

BEST PUB OF THE YEAR



Combining country pubs and dining pubs, the whole eating-out experience needs to be taken into account in this category. Customer service, value for money and the quality of the food should all be accounted for. How well does the establishment you recommend use and name local suppliers and seasonal produce throughout its menus? Neighbourhood pubs are at the heart of the local community and this category is your chance to give something back for all the enjoyment they give you. Are the staff friendly and welcoming, even if it isn't your local? Are there local ales, juices, wines and ciders available to purchase and if so, are they proudly on display? Also, note the quality and speed of the service, the overall atmosphere and ambience, both inside and outside in the beer garden.

BEST FARMER'S MARKET



The key to a good Farmers' Market is not only the range of produce and the quality of its stalls but also the principles that it supports – for example, does it work as a co-operative with other farmers, is most of the produce sold there grown or raised locally? Are the stallholders welcoming and knowledgeable and is the layout easy to navigate as you move around the market? Are any extras offered on a regular basis, such as cookery demonstrations or talks, is it well advertised so you can plan your visit in advance, is there good accessibility and parking?

RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR



We suspect that this category will be one of our most coveted awards, as the Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Restaurant of the Year needs to offer an incomparable dining experience, from the ambience to the service and most importantly the food. Is it locally sourced and does it change with the seasons? Does chef support local producers and are they recognised on the menu? Look through the wine list, are there local as well as international wines and sparkling wines and can the staff tell you more if you ask? We'd expect nothing less from our Restaurant of the Year.

CHEF OF THE YEAR



Kent is blessed with outstanding chefs working in the county's fantastic array of restaurants. The Chef of the Year should be someone who has devoted him or herself to the cause of serving the best possible food. They will demonstrate technical ability, use of seasonal ingredients, presentation of the food and an understanding of how flavours work together. They will be able to lead and inspire their team and to talk to customers knowledgeably about the dishes they have enjoyed. Above all, we are looking for passion – that magic ingredient that defines true greatness in the kitchen.

BEST KENT FOOD AND DRINK HERO



Kent has a food and drink scene that is more vibrant than many others across the UK. This category celebrates the individual who has made the most impact on the food or drink community – someone who goes the extra mile to promote Kent to a wider audience and is passionate about local produce throughout. Now is your chance to nominate your own Kent food and drink hero.



Business Week

online@www.businessforkent.co.uk

Your business is our business



Racing legend to open chamber networking show

HEVER Castle Golf Club is to host this year's Eden Valley Business Show.

Taking place on July 5, the free event in Edenbridge will be opened by racing legend John Surtees.

Featuring a host of exhibitors and live seminars, it runs from 10am until 4pm.

Sevenoaks District Council is co-sponsoring the event and will be exhibiting at the show as part of its work to support and develop the local economy.

Eden Valley Chamber of Commerce is organising the event to support local economic growth and development.

There will also be a chance to meet other local business representatives and owners at a networking breakfast running from 7.45-9.30am before the event. This optional extra is £12 inclusive of breakfast.

The council's member for economic development, Roddy Hogarth, said: "This is a great opportunity for local businesses to engage with each other and network in a relaxed environment locally. I would urge business owners and representatives to take advantage of this free event, which could provide them with useful contacts and information for the future."

Shopping centre wins ACE Award

MAIDSTONE shopping complex Fremlin Walk has picked up a major national award.

It collected an ACE Award for customer excellence at a gala dinner and awards ceremony in Manchester, staged by retail property industry body BCSC. The awards celebrate dedication, commitment and innovation in customer care.

Fremlin Walk was the top-scoring shopping centre in the 40,000-sq-metre centre size category, and also received the overall Top ACE Award, presented to the top-scoring shopping centre from across all the various sized categories.

Centre manager Lloyd Wright said: "To win these awards demonstrates that not only do we have great facilities, but also that every member of our customer service team, including front and back of house staff, deliver a great customer experience. I am extremely proud of the team."

If you have a business story, then we would like to hear from you. Telephone the newsdesk on 01303 817000, or alternatively email your story to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Why £92m for A21 will usher in a windfall for small firms

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

IN THE WEEK when the Government gave the green light to a £92million funding package to allow the dualling of a vital road, business leaders say it has come not a moment too soon.

In an announcement in the House of Commons by chief secretary to the treasury, Danny Alexander this week, the cash was allocated as part of the spending review's investment in infrastructure.

And it came just days after the findings of a survey by the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) revealed 91 per cent of firms back the scheme.

The dualling of the A21 has been on something of a roller coaster ride in recent years.

A key link road for west Kent, the road, leaving Tunbridge Wells, becomes a single carriage-way towards Tonbridge and is a daily traffic blackspot.

Not only does it waste time and add delays to deliveries, it adds to congestion on the nearby North Farm estate, which has developed into a major retail and leisure site.

After being given the green light for dualling by the last Labour government, the Coalition put it – along with other road building plans – on hold as part of its initial spending review.

But local figures – among them the likes of Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark – kept the pressure on. Now the Government has signalled the go ahead for the scheme. A public inquiry began in May. Assuming that gives it the nod, work can begin in 2015.

Graham Taylor, west Kent branch chairman of the FSB, said: "Many FSB members comment that it frequently takes 45 minutes to travel this four mile section of the A21, with additional traffic caused by the new Pembury hospital and in-



SUFFOCATING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

For anyone who has never experienced the A21 during the rush hour, it is difficult to describe what a debilitating effect it has on the town and those businesses who work in and around it.

As one of the key roads servicing the town and linking it to London, the rest of west Kent and East Sussex, its daily choking when the road drops from one lane to two is suffocating.

While opponents point to the environmental damage to woodland, there is no denying the

dualling of the A21 is a scheme which cannot come soon enough.

Tunbridge Wells is keen to continue its growth – and if that means further interest in the North Farm estate then that must also necessitate the A21 expansion.

Businesses deserve to not experience the daily headache of staff caught in queues, suppliers delayed, or visitors given such a poor example of the local transport infrastructure.

creased retail provision at the North Farm estate further adding to traffic congestion."

The poll found that small businesses in Kent (67 per cent) were more likely to seek an alternative route and the most common option was country lanes.

Only one in three East Sussex FSB members (33 per cent) chose to avoid the A21, with many commenting that there is no alternative road or that by-ways were equally congested and took just as long.

A proportion (14 per cent) said the loss of woodland and wildlife should stop the development, however many in favour of the scheme

expressed concerns that damage should be minimised and alternative habitat provided. A majority, three in four (76 per cent) did not see the loss of woods and habitat as a reason for stopping the road dualling.

Mr Taylor added: "It's not that businesses don't care, but unfortunately sometimes concessions have to be made to recognise population growth and the need to distribute the goods and services we all need. Everything possible should be done to minimise woodland destruction."

The survey responses were based on 195 replies to an email questionnaire sent out between May 24 and June 6.

Enterprise partnership survey calls to utilise existing airports

MANSTON Airport chiefs have welcomed a survey which has called for existing capacity and the building of new runways at existing airports as the way to tackle capacity challenges over the next 20 years.

The survey of business leaders was conducted for the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SE LEP). Some 64 per cent opposed a Thames Estuary airport and said increasing Gatwick and

Stansted made more sense.

The survey also found that business leaders supported greater use of regional airports in and around the SE LEP area (77 per cent), including Manston and Southend, and a 'Heathwick' rail link between Gatwick and Heathrow (77 per cent).

Charles Buchanan, chief executive of Manston Airport, said: "We welcome the recognition of that greater use should be made

of existing airports.

"Kent is now connected to the rest of the world thanks to the start of the twice daily flights from Manston to Schiphol. The prospect of improved rail travel times to and from London, and a Manston Parkway station, means the airport is perfectly placed to support the county's business community and strengthen the local economy."

SE LEP chairman, John Spence, said: "The UK is losing business

while our European counterparts are reaping the benefits.

"Business leaders are not convinced about the case for a Thames Estuary airport. The resounding message is that we should look at Gatwick, Stansted and our regional airports to enhance capacity now while a longer term solution is developed.

"We cannot wait for action to be taken to ensure that we remain globally competitive."

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Business Week

Training, courses and careers

UCA students secure placements working on top music TV show



RUNNER: Lauren Woodfall

TWO students from the University of the Creative Arts have reaped the rewards of top BBC live music show Later...with Jools Holland relocating to Kent by securing career-enhancing paid work experience.

Since April, broadcast media students Lauren Woodfall and Ashley Kay have worked as runners on every episode of the show. Previously at BBC Television Centre, when the

iconic site closed, it set up a new base at The Maidstone Studios.

Simon Welsford, broadcast media course leader, said: "This has been a fantastic opportunity for Lauren and Ashley to, not only work on a network show, but also be paid employees of the BBC."

BBC production manager, Vicky Singer, said: "Ashley and Lauren see first hand all the planning which goes into a large-scale live production."

Nicol to spearhead push for apprenticeships

AN ELECTRICAL apprentice from Sittingbourne is set to play a key role in a nationwide campaign.

Nicol Dower, 20, is one of ten 'apprentice ambassadors' for training charity JTL. She will look to get more young women to sign up to craft apprenticeships, attending a string of special events across Kent, sharing her experience, and then acting as a mentor to those in the region who sign up for a JTL apprenticeship.

Hitting the right notes with The Voice coach

A VOCAL coach from BBC TV talent show The Voice has been passing on her expertise to musical theatre students at MidKent College.

Jai Ramage, who has spent more than 20 years in showbusiness, spent two days refining the talents of young singers at the Medway campus. She said: "I bombarded the students with a lot of information, and it was fantastic to see them take it all on board and respond to it by the second day."



TRAINING: Getting to grips with IT networks and systems can be an ideal platform for apprentices

Microsoft deal serves up fresh opportunities

TECHNOLOGY giant Microsoft will roll out its new apprenticeship scheme to youngsters emerging from school and college this summer.

It has an agreement in place with Kent County Council which will see its approved apprenticeship schemes in the highly competitive world of IT rolled out.

In the first project of its kind, Microsoft is working with KCC and dozens of its partner companies to offer apprenticeships delivered by leading the firm's training partner, QA, to the county's young people.

With the posts starting in September, the timing could prove ideal or those leaving school or college this summer.

Roger Gough, cabinet member for education and health reform, said: "It is important to remember that an apprenticeship is more than just a glorified work experience placement. It's about starting a career – taking the first steps in a real, permanent job by learning while you work."

"This scheme is important because it brings the strengths of Microsoft to Kent's young people, and because it is timed to support young people who are moving on from their time at school or college."

"Taking a step in to the IT industry can be immensely exciting, not to mention rewarding."

"This scheme represents a level 3 apprenticeship, which will lead to an A-level equivalent qualification as part of learning the IT trade."

Those applying for the roles do not need to

have studied IT before, but need to demonstrate both commitment and enthusiasm to a career in the sector.

Some 37 firms across the county have signed up to deliver the approved programme, with the successful candidate gaining qualifications in Windows server administration, networking, security, customer service, organisation and relationship-building.

Broadstairs-based Auratek Ltd has more than 26 years' experience helping SMEs with the support and maintenance of their computer systems.

One of the apprentices taken on through the scheme is Aiden Edwards who started on the desktop systems and networking programme in March.

He said: "The apprenticeship programme offers a great learning experience as it offers relevant industry qualifications and exposes you to many different technologies, which has helped me develop my professional persona."

"Initially I was nervous which came across as impersonal but as time has gone by I've become much more confident which I believe makes the experience for customers better."

CEO Daniel Eales added: "As an apprentice, Aiden has been excellent. He has hit the ground running and was answering calls on his first day at the office."

To apply, email stephen.smith@qa.com or call 01753 898 740. For information, search online for 'Kent apprenticeships with Microsoft'.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working?
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Cooking up trade secrets at chef forum

A HOST of top chefs from across the UK gathered at East Kent College recently for the launch of a new industry group - and gave catering students a taste of what it's like at the top of the profession.

The launch of the south east regional group of the Chefs Forum will prove a melting pot for ideas and knowledge and featured Michelin-starred chefs as well as the cream of the county's culinary experts.

During the event, Charlie Lakin, who commands a three AA rosette for his work at The Marquis at Alkham, gave a presentation on working with foraged ingredients, while a number of local suppliers displayed their produce at the event.

Students assisted in staging the event and were able to gain some valuable experience.

Catherine Farinha, founder of the Chefs Forum group said

it was a great opportunity for everyone involved, particularly the students, who got the opportunity to serve canapés to guests.

She said: "Events like this are great as they bridge the gap between education and industry."

College chef lecturer Rob Allsworth added: "The feedback received from chefs as well as students was all extremely positive."

Decision to abolish agricultural minimum wage should prompt contracts review, warn experts

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

BUSINESS chiefs working in the agriculture and horticulture sectors are being advised to take steps now to check employment contracts ahead of the abolition of the Agricultural Wages Board.

Established in 1948, it established a minimum wage to protect those employed in the industries across England and Wales, in addition to having the ability to determine other working conditions, such as holiday entitlement and sick pay. This was called the Agricultural Wages Order (AWO).

The agricultural minimum wage is traditionally higher than the regular government-enforced national minimum wage.

But by deciding to scrap the AWO, employers will be able to recruit at the lower level wage bracket – as long as regular employment law is not breached.

The national minimum wage kicks in on October 1.

But further details are still being awaited as to how this will work in practice warns Canterbury-based BTF Partnership, a firm of rural and commercial chartered surveyors and valuers.

Colin Hall, partner at the firm and director of the 50 Club Horticultural Employers' Association, which specialises in employment law, said: "The implications of AWO abolition on individual employees will depend entirely upon the status of the employee at the time and the contractual terms applying to them."

"It is likely existing employees engaged prior to October 1, 2013, with no specific contractual



CHANGE: Implications of AWO abolition will depend on individual employers and employee's contracts

provisions reserving the right to amend following AWO abolition, will broadly continue with the same entitlements.

"For others, however, such as those more recently employed with a specific contractual provision reserving the employer's right to amend their contractual terms following abolition of the AWO, or those employed on or after October 1, 2013, the implications are greater."

"Then the employee may not automatically be entitled to AWO enhancements such as in-

creased pay rates – over and above the national minimum wage – overtime, maximum deduction for a house, bereavement entitlements and enhanced holiday – 31 days instead of 28.

"Employers need to be careful between now and September 30, that any employees taken on receive a contract of employment that makes it clear what their entitlements are and review any existing contracts and seek advice if in doubt."

The BTF Partnership is an independent firm of chartered surveyors with offices in Ashford,

Transport minister appoints experienced trio to help Dover Harbour Board growth

THREE high-profile business figures – including the former CEO of Hornby – have been appointed to the board of the Dover Harbour Board (DHB) by transport minister Stephen Hammond.

George Jenkins, chairman of DHB, said: "I am grateful to the secretary of state for showing complete confidence in the board and for appointing such strong, additional non-executive directors who bring special skills so we may better deliver for all our stakeholders in the years ahead."

Tim Waggott, chief executive at the Port of Dover, added: "Future success will require the board to work together with its customers and community."

"This is precisely the approach we have adopted and in which the minister is confident that, by continuing, we can deliver a key national economic asset that is an essential contributor to growth and regeneration in our community."

The three new appointments are:

- Frank Martin: deputy chairman



THREE OF A KIND: (Left to right) Bob Lane OBE, Erik Østergaard and Frank Martin have joined as non-executives

and former CEO at Hornby and a Deputy Lieutenant of Kent. He is also a Kent ambassador promoting business, community and engagement in Kent. His skills include strategic planning, marketing and business integration. He brings understanding and in-depth knowledge of east Kent matters.

- Bob Lane OBE: received his OBE in 2004, for services to regeneration, having had a career in regeneration activities across the UK. He is currently a board member of the Homes and Communities Agency and until recently was chairman of the London Thames Gateway Development Corporation.

- Erik Østergaard: currently CEO of Danish Transport and Logistics, an industry leader for the transport and logistics sector in Denmark. He brings a wealth of shipping, transportation and infrastructure experience, having been chief operating officer for ferry giant Scandlines AG Group.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

£12.5m investment in county gets go-ahead

MANUFACTURING firm Multipanel UK has been given planning permission to make a £12.5m capital investment and create 70 jobs in Dover.

It is to move to a site at Millyard Way in Eythorne after getting the nod from Dover District Council.

The company specialises in the manufacture of aluminium panels.

Its headquarters are in Devon.

Planners ponder next phase of Kings Hill

PLANNERS are to consider the next ambitious phase of development at Kings Hill in West Malling.

Liberty Property Trust UK Ltd, in conjunction with its partner and landowner Kent County Council, wants to build an extra 975 homes, a self-service petrol station and a new primary school. It will be considered by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.

Keep up-to-date every day with latest news

FOR all the latest business news from across the county, be sure to visit our dedicated website during the week at www.businessforkent.co.uk.

Regularly updated, you can also be notified of all the latest, breaking, news by following us on social networking site Twitter.

We send out business, news, sport and leisure updates to thousands already. Why not join them? Visit www.twitter.com/kosmedia.

International award for ice cream firm

SIMPLY Ice Cream has added yet another major award to its mantlepiece after beating off rivals from Japan and Taiwan at the Dairy Innovation Awards in Lucerne, Switzerland.

The firm, based in Bonnington, near Ashford, won best ice cream for its salted caramel variety.

The judging panel considered over 140 entries from 23 countries in 15 categories.

Vauxhall all set to drive into Aylesford

BEADLES Motor Group will open its new Vauxhall dealership at the Aylesford Retail Park next month.

Already with showrooms in Dartford, Medway, Maidstone, Sidcup, Bromley and Sevenoaks, the Aylesford site will be the first time Beadles - which was formed in Dartford nearly 100 years ago - has featured the Vauxhall brand.

It opens in July.

Brewer branches out with new-look pub

FOUR jobs have been created after the Hop and Rye pub on London Road, Bromley, opened for business.

The pub, formerly the Beech Tree, welcomed its first customers on Thursday. It is owned and operated by national pub firm the Stonegate Pub Company.

The new jobs were created in addition to retaining existing staff members.

Your Next Move >

Mock exam gives chance to gain experience of timing and conditions of 11 Plus

IS your child sitting the 11+ Test in September 2013? The summer holidays offer an opportunity to help children reach their full test potential.

Kent County Council is planning changes to the test in 2014, but for current Year 5 children hoping to get a place in any Kent or Medway state grammar school they will face four tests in September:

English, Maths, Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning (NVR)*

* Medway children do not sit NVR so sit only three tests.

At the 11 Plus Academy we are here to help take the stress out of the test. Many children benefit from sitting a mock exam to gain experience of exam conditions and timing.

Very bright children can trip up by running out of time. Our mock exams are held in convenient community centres

in Kent and Medway on Sunday afternoons throughout July.

Parents will receive a detailed feedback report identifying strengths and weaknesses in the four test subjects, advice about improving the scores and an indication of how close their child is to the vital Pass mark.

For those who would like to boost their skills in the four test areas, we also offer revision classes throughout August at our Chatham and

Kings Hill centres. Running for three hours each, they offer an opportunity for newcomers to understand how to answer the 11+ questions, and for more experienced children a chance to reinforce each subject area.

Mr Lee's daughter attended the mock exam and revision classes in 2011. He said: "We were delighted with Aysha's results and felt that the excellent tuition had a major role in helping her focus over the last few months."



Technology school elects to go down the path of becoming an academy to get even better

SITUATED among some of the most beautiful architecture and surrounding countryside in the county, Chaucer Technology School is a secondary school based in Canterbury that has so much to offer its new and existing students.

Chaucer Technology School is working hard to become an attractive option for those beginning to think about where to send their children to secondary school.

Ofsted said in February this year that under the guidance and expertise of their recently appointed acting principal, Miss King, the school had begun to make significant improvements in key areas to improve performance.

Following extensive consultation over the course of this school year, it has been decided

that the school will seek academy status. It is firmly believed that becoming an academy will help set Chaucer on the path to becoming an even better school and that it will lead to a brighter future for the school community.

With a wide range of subjects at Key Stages 3, 4 and 5, continuously improving grades across Years 11 and 13 and a principal passionate about the constant development of individual students and the school as an establishment, Chaucer Technology School is fast becoming an incredibly attractive option for students across Canterbury and the surrounding area.

It is the school's desire that every pupil grows in knowledge, understanding and maturity as a result of being part of Chaucer.



"Let us take the stress out of the test"

For children sitting the Kent / Medway 11+ Test in September 2013

Now Booking for Summer Mock Exams

Kings Hill Community Centre, Kings Hill **Sunday July 7th 2013 1pm - 5pm**

St Marys Island Community Centre, Chatham **Sunday July 14th 2013 1pm - 5pm**

Tunbridge Wells Sports Centre, Royal Tunbridge Wells **Sunday July 28th 2013 1pm - 5pm**

Limited Places Available

Revision Classes – All 10am – 1pm

St Marys Island, Chatham: August 12th, 13th, 14th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 26th and 27th

Kings Hill, West Malling: August 12th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, 26th and 28th

"We found the mock exam very useful for boosting our daughter's confidence. I would recommend using your mock exam as it helps both parents and children..."
Mrs James October 2011



Call or email today 01634 566165 / 07766 223254

www.11plus-academy.co.uk enquiries@11plus-academy.co.uk

Visit our website to download an example of the 11+ Academy Mock Exam Report



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Pent Valley is embarking on an exciting journey from the level of good to outstanding

Pent Valley Technology College was recently assessed as a 'good' school by Ofsted, the Government inspectorate, and has now, under the leadership of its head, Mario Citro, embarked upon its journey to becoming an 'outstanding' school.

Pent Valley continues year on year to deliver improved academic results both at pre- and post-16 level.

It is an inclusive school where all its employees – both teaching and support staff – have as their unified goal ensuring that all its students achieve their academic, personal and social potential so that they are fully prepared for the next stage of their lives, be that university, further education or employment.

This is delivered under its strap-line 'Achievement for all', which encompasses everything that the school is about.



Pent Valley ensures through its Outreach programme and summer school that there is a smooth transition for its pupils from their primary school into Pent Valley.

As its students mature and progress through the school, the focus is on the core essential subjects and providing them with a personalised experience designed around real life and the world of work.

Ofsted identified that the students' progress accelerates as they move through Pent Valley.

All students have access to the school's high-quality leisure centre. There are also a number of specialised facilities, including a hair-and-beauty salon and a motor mechanics workshop.

Pent Valley students are nurtured by strong community principles of equality, achievement and pride.

Oasis: transforming the lives of every learner as well as the community that it serves

WHAT a difference a year makes. Or should we say what a difference we can make in a year?

Hextable School was given a Notice to Improve by Ofsted in May 2012.

Just one year later, the school is out of Ofsted category and on a fantastic trajectory of improvement.

When the school was inspected again by Ofsted just a few weeks ago, it was graded 'good' for teaching and learning, 'good' for leadership and management and 'good' for behaviour and safety.

Historic exam results prevented the Lead Inspector from judging the school as 'good' overall, but if predictions turn into reality when the exam results are published in August, the school could be one of the most improved in the country.



"The quality of teaching has improved rapidly over the past year so that it is now consistently good, and that the proportion of outstanding teaching has risen significantly. 'Teachers are aware of, and are enthusiastically accepting, the challenge to embed these improvements': Ofsted, May 2013

Come and see for yourself the exciting changes we have made when we open as Oasis

Academy Hextable at the start of the next academic year.

We truly believe that every person matters and hope that you will see we have the highest expectations and aspirations for all.

We are well on our way to becoming an outstanding learning community and the local school of choice – we want to transform the lives of every learner and the community that we serve.



Pent Valley Technology College
YEAR 6 OPEN Evening
Monday 16th September 2013
18.00 - 21.00



Meet the staff, look around the school and see what the school can offer your child.

Headteacher's welcome at 18.15

There are also open mornings on:
Monday 23rd, 30th Sept, 7th and 14th October
Tuesday 24th Sept, 1st, 8th and 15th October
Between 09.30 and 12.30

For further information please contact Mrs Nell Young on
01303 277161 ext 2245.

Pent Valley Technology College,
Surrenden Road, Folkestone, CT19 4ED.

Year on Year improvement in exam results since 2007



Open Evening
Wednesday 18th September 2013
5pm – 8pm

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Thursday 19th & Friday 20th September 2013
9:30am – 12 noon

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Driving

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By Steve Loader

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT should surprise no one that, after 12 months of changeable UK weather, I have just tested the new Peugeot 2008 on snow. And really tested it, by scaling and descending a steep, ungritted 14-degree incline under complete control.

But none of this was actually down to another twist in Britain's weather saga, but Peugeot demonstrating its new crossover at Tamworth's Snowdome – all the more impressive as there is no 4x4 option.

In any case, the French don't usually 'do' 4x4s; a stance I agree with, bearing in mind how rarely all-wheel-drive is really needed by most UK 4x4 buyers.

But the French lion brand created a good halfway house for its 3008 crossover and now the 2008, crossover being preferred parlance for cars with SUV style that also 'cross over' into MPV and family-hatchback territory.

Both cars are available with Grip Control, an advanced traction-control system for the front wheels that, in partnership with the all-weather tyres supplied, can give pseudo 4x4 performance in most on-road situations.

Judging from my Snowdome experience, most would-be 4x4 SUV buyers can have no qualms about this solution that neatly does away with my chief 4x4 concerns: upfront cost, plus added weight and consumption of tyres and fuel.

The 2008 is an attractive solution, too: far better looking than rivals like the Nissan Juke – a Marmite motor if ever there was one – and very well trimmed inside, with flagship Feline trim also including Peugeot's Cielo panoramic roof.

It's also affordable, with prices from £12,995 comparing well with the £9,995 entry price for Peugeot's smart 208 supermini from which the 2008 is derived.

Opting for the cheapest 2008 gets you a low-emission 82bhp 1.2-litre three-cylinder petrol engine that complements the car's pleasant dynamics, incurs just £30-a-year road tax after a freebie year one and has an official combined 57.6mpg – another signal that petrol is fighting back. Admittedly, it's buzzy when cruising the motorway, but it's a cheap way into this versatile crossover, which offers decent room in the back, a 360-litre boot and proper fold-flat rear seats for a big cargo area.

For comparison, the cheapest diesel (70bhp 1.4-litre) is £14,295, but a stately 0-62mph in 14.9 seconds argues against that, and most buyers will head for the up-spec 1.6-litre models (from £16,150) with a decent blend of power and economy plus Grip Control, which should be an inexpensive counter to the vagaries of our weather – a simple dial allows you to switch from Normal to Snow, Off-Road, Sand or ESP (electronic stability control programme) Off mode.

Having driven the sometimes-hyperactive three-cylinder petrol version, stepping then into a 1.6-litre e-HDi diesel with stop-start was a calming experience – even when bombing up and down the Snowdome slope.



PEUGEOT 2008

FIRST DRIVE

Price:
from £12,995

Driving appeal:
★★★★

Image:
★★★★★

Space:
★★★★

Value:
★★★★★

Running costs:
★★★★

Reliability:
★★★★

How green?:
★★★★

Best rival:
Renault Captur

New 2008 avoids any slip-ups



STEADY AS SHE GOES:

Peugeot's new 2008 comes with Grip Control, an advanced traction system for the front tyres offering a pseudo 4x4 experience alongside all-round comfort, inside and out

DON'T LIKE

... some of the fussiness of the 2008 styling such as the 'jagged' headlights and the utterly pointless chrome strip above the rear doors.

NOT SURE

... the SUV clan will 'get' Grip Control immediately, but it could be the answer to their dreams; every-day 4x4 without multiplied running cost.

REALLY LIKE

... the pragmatic way Peugeot – on a bit of a roll now – has nailed the compact SUV/crossover brief quickly and with no previous form.

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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km) for the 2008 range are: Urban 36.7-68.9 (7.7-4.1), Extra Urban 58.9-78.5 (4.8-3.6), Combined 47.9-74.3 (5.9-3.8) and CO₂ 135-98.

On the Road prices quoted include delivery to dealership, number plates, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty and £55 Government First Registration Fee. Model shown 2008 Feline 1.6 VTI £17,650. *Specification according to version.

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The closing date for applications is noon Monday 8 July 2013**Interviews to be held on Monday 15 July****Edenbridge Community Warden (Part Time)****Salary:** £10,532 per annum eligible for final salary pension**Location:** Edenbridge**Responsible to:** Deputy Town Clerk

Edenbridge seeks a person keen to improve the local environment, provide an effective link between residents, agencies, and voluntary organisations, and promote community safety. This role is 3 days a week (22 hours) contract initially until August 2015.

The post requires initiative and working as part of a small team; flexibility to cover some evening and weekend work; ability to keep records; a clean driving licence and being subject to Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure.

Closing date 12 noon 5 July 2013.**For further information and an application form contact 01732 865368****or e-mail townclerk@edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk****Edenbridge Town Council, Doggetts Barn, 72A High St, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 5AR**

The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

SENIOR STAFF NURSE Two full-time positions**Qualifications** Registered Nurse 1st Level. Minimum 2 years post registration/equivalent experience.

Evidence of continual professional development. Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent.

To discuss this opportunity and benefits or to arrange an informal visit, please contact

Mary Guarnieri, (Matron) – 01843 234252**ENDOSCOPY SISTER (25 hours per week)**

The successful applicant must have a minimum of 3 years post registration (level 1) endoscopy experience with all diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy interventions with at least one year in an endoscopy senior managerial role. He/she must have proven GRS and JAG Accreditation experience, and able to work independently to help meet the national criteria and maintain a clinical 'hands on' approach

ENDOSCOPY PRACTITIONERS (20 hours per week)

We are looking for enthusiastic, experienced, highly motivated endoscopy staff that have a flexible approach to working.

Hours will include evening and weekend working. A minimum of 2 years current experience is essential.

To discuss these opportunities and benefits please contact either: **Dennis Sutton, Theatre Liaison Manager 07833 237881****OR Mary Guarnieri, Matron 01843 234252**

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Private Hospital,**2nd Floor, Atina House, Bench Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1JH**Telephone: **01304 245951** | Fax: **01304 207320** | E-mail: **jo.edwards@spencerhospitals.com**Alternatively you can download an application form and job description from our website **www.spencerprivatehospitals.com****Closing date for applications Monday 8 July***The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer. These positions are subject to a Data & Barring Service Disclosure check*

The Spencer Wing is an independently owned and managed private hospital. We have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and a 22 bed unit situated on the QEQM Hospital site. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

ADMINISTRATORS ASHFORD One full-time, One part time (3 days per week)**(both to include evenings and weekends)****Qualifications** Maths and English (GCSE or equivalent)

2 years working with the public

Word/Excel, IT skills, E-mail, Internet

To discuss these opportunities and benefits or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Paul Parish, Business Office Manager – 01304 245958

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Private Hospital,**2nd Floor, Atina House, Bench Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1JH**Telephone: **01304 245951** | Fax: **01304 207320** | E-mail: **jo.edwards@spencerhospitals.com**Alternatively you can download an application form and job description from our website **www.spencerprivatehospitals.com****Closing date for applications Monday 14 July****STAFF NURSE OUTPATIENTS (MARGATE) Part time position****Qualifications** Registered Nurse 1st Level

Minimum 6 months experience in hospital setting

Ability to work independently

To discuss these opportunities and benefits or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Carolyn Flegg, Outpatient Manager – 07786 171718**WEEKEND RECEPTIONIST (MARGATE) Part time position (12 hours)****Qualifications** Maths and English (GCSE or equivalent).

2 years working with the public

Word, IT Skills, Booking Systems

To discuss these opportunities and benefits or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Caroline McKean, Outpatients Admin Supervisor – 01843 234372

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Private Hospital,**2nd Floor, Atina House, Bench Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1JH**Telephone: **01304 245951** | Fax: **01304 207320** | E-mail: **jo.edwards@spencerhospitals.com**Alternatively you can download an application form and job description from our website **www.spencerprivatehospitals.com****Closing date for applications Monday 14 July***The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer. These positions are subject to a Data & Barring Service Disclosure check*

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road
Rochester
Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008
Email: office@sjwms.co.uk
Website: www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1200 students including 330 in the co-educational Sixth Form

'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted November 2008 – "a buzz of excitement pervades the school"**Pupil Premium Mentor****NJC Grade C2****Range 22 - 31****£19,621 - £26,276 pro rata**

If you are enthusiastic, committed and keen to help young people, we have a position that may suit you.

We require a full time Pupil Premium Mentor for 37 hours per week, term time only to start as soon as possible for one year in the first instance. Salary will be NJC C2 point 22.

The post would suit someone who has experience with working with secondary school pupils, possibly qualified to A Level standard, perhaps a HLTA or NQT, with excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to relate well to children and adults. If required, training would be given to the right candidate.

The role involves mentoring pupils who benefit from the Pupil Premium Grant to ensure they are supported in their learning and make outstanding progress.

OFSTED awarded the school an outstanding grade in every category in our most recent inspection, commenting that "students thrive within its distinctive ethos, enabling them to succeed academically and to develop into confident, well-rounded individuals who are prepared extremely well for their future lives."

If you are interested in working for the benefit of bright, talented pupils and have a team ethos, then please contact the P A to the Headteacher Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, email harrisonj@sjwms.co.uk 01634 844008 or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk where further details and an application form can be downloaded.

The Williamson Trust currently consists of Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School, the Hundred of Hoo Academy, High Halstow Primary Academy, Elaine Primary Academy and finally St James Primary as a co-sponsored academy all providing exceptional career development opportunities.

We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications – 1st July 2013**BE PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY****Advertise here****Call****01303****817056****www.kentnews.co.uk****YOUR PUBLIC IS OUR PUBLIC**

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TO ADVERTISE:TELEPHONE: **01303 817056**EMAIL: **appointments@kosmedia.co.uk**ONLINE: **www.jobs24.co.uk/kent****Career opportunities at MidKent College**

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Dance Lecturer 0.6 (Maternity Cover)

£22,761 - £31,302 pro rata,
depending upon qualifications and experience.

Medway Campus

The ideal candidate should be a versatile dance tutor who has contemporary and physical theatre as specialisms. A dance degree and teaching qualification is essential with knowledge of BTEC, Internal Verification and the FE sector. A strong vocational background is desirable with the ability to teach technique and theoretical subjects. The candidate should be a confident and creative choreographer who can work collaboratively as well as independently. Dance within Performing Arts is a highly successful area benefiting from excellent resources and large dance studio. A September start would be desirable in order to ensure continuity and a smooth transition to the programme of study.

Closing: 08/07/2013

To apply for this position please contact job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

CUMBRIA HOUSE CARE HOME
REQUIRES**P/T CARE ASSISTANTS**

EXPERIENCE PREFERRED

MUST HAVE NVQ/QCF LEVEL 2 IN
HEALTH & SOCIAL CAREPOST SUBJECT TO ENHANCED CRB CHECKS,
COST TO BE MET BY APPLICANTFOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT JULIA ON**01303 254019**

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Customer Contact Officer x 2
Salary £16,323 to £18,852

The Council is looking for enthusiastic, customer-focused individuals with excellent customer service skills to work within the Contact Centre.

You will be dealing with lots of different people and a range of tasks over the telephone. Excellent communication skills and ability to absorb and assess information quickly is essential. You will also need good IT and numeracy skills and the ability to understand and interpret legislation. If you want to be a part of Shepway District Council's drive to improve its service to customers this could be the opportunity for you.

Please contact Joanne Ibrahim, Senior Contact Centre Officer on 01303 853607 for an informal discussion.

Closing deadline is noon on 22nd July 2013

For further details please visit
www.shepway.gov.uk

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**Creative, committed and enthusiastic
TEACHERS do amazing things at**
Bradstow School

If you would like to join our team in January 2014 (or earlier!) we are confident that you will find this the most satisfying job you have ever undertaken.

Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19. It is set in 13 acres of parkland within a few hundred metres of the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We endeavour to meet the needs of children with Autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved international recognition for our leadership, supporting our people and for our developments in Functional Communication and Positive Behaviour Support.

Experience is not essential. What makes the difference at Bradstow is the professional and personal qualities and values of the people who are employed here. What it is that you as an individual have to offer our young people to enable them to feel safe, unconditionally valued and engaged.

You will be provided with an extended and ongoing package of induction and training. We believe that staff training and professional development, together with the other staff support systems in place, are essential in our specialised field and are at the core of the success of the school.

All teachers are fully trained and supported in Gentle Teaching, TEACCH, Positive Behaviour Support, PECS and other augmentative communication systems, as well as being provided with a wide range of other specialist skills. You will also be encouraged and supported to extend your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies.

In addition to judging Bradstow 'Outstanding' OFSTED 2013 said

"A culture of acceptance, tolerance and understanding is embedded throughout the school. Difference and individuality is celebrated. This is reinforced throughout every staffing level and includes all members of the maintenance, catering, teaching and care teams. Collaborative working is key to the school's success."

If you would like to join our team and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, please contact us. Working at Bradstow will be challenging and you will need to be committed to the needs of the young people and the school. In return we offer you a highly rewarding and satisfying career which will both develop your skills and prepare you for senior and/or specialist leadership posts as your career develops - with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well!

For SEN specialists, the second SEN point may be available.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

Applications should be received by 5pm, Thursday 11th July 2013.


www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

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PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

VILLAGE GREENS - IN THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC LOCAL INQUIRY

COMMONS ACT 2006 - SECTION 15(1)

APPLICATION TO REGISTER LAND KNOWN AS FISHERMANS BEACH AT HYTHE AS A NEW VILLAGE GREEN

Notice is hereby given that an Inspector has been appointed by the Kent County Council to hold a Public Inquiry into the above application and will attend at:

**Hythe Town Hall, High Street, Hythe, Kent
On Tuesday 23rd July 2013 at 10.00am**

To hold a public local inquiry into the application
A copy of the Inspector's directions setting out the procedure to be followed for the submission of evidence and the format that the Public Inquiry will take is available on the County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/villagegreens.

Any person wishing to attend the Inquiry to give evidence (and who is not already being called as a witness by one of the parties) must notify the County Council of his intention to do so, and provide a signed and dated written statement setting out the substance of his evidence no later than 4pm on Tuesday 16th July 2013.

For further enquiries, please contact Melanie McNeir on 01622 221628

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

Dated: 30th June 2013

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact
Kent Public Rights of Way
and Access Service,
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)
or visit
www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



To advertise in this section

01303 817056

PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/01663/FUL Flat 4 1 Nevill Terrace, Broadwater

- Replacement of windows and doors and new decking (CA)

13/01646/FUL Henrietta House 47 London Road, Culverden

- Change of use from office (Class B1) to a single dwelling (Class C3) including alterations and external works (CA)(LB)

13/01647/LBC Henrietta House 47 London Road, Culverden

- Change of use from office (Class B1) to a single dwelling (Class C3) including alterations and external works (LB)

13/01661/FUL Gray Publishing York House, Culverden

- Extension of Time - Change of use from offices to residential (Planning permission TW/10/01991/FUL refers) (CA) (LB)

13/01629/HOUSE The Coach House The Street, Frittenden

- Alterations and single storey extensions, addition of pitched roof over garage, dormer window to rear elevation (CA)

13/01619/HOUSE Beals Green Farm Heartenook Road, Hawkhurst

- Proposed restoration and conversion of existing barns to provide two bedroom annexe (LB)

13/01620/LBC Beals Green Farm Heartenook Road, Hawkhurst

- Listed Building Consent: Proposed restoration and conversion of existing barns to provide two bedroom annexe (LB)

13/01657/FUL The Carriage House Bayham Abbey, Lamberhurst

- Demolition of modern glazed roof structure, single storey front extension, internal alterations and pitched roof over flat roofed extension (LB)

13/01660/LBC The Carriage House Bayham Abbey, Lamberhurst

- Listed Building Consent: Demolition of modern glazed roof structure, single storey front extension, internal alterations and pitched roof over flat roofed extension (LB)

13/01665/FUL Pearsons Corner Willow Lane, Paddock Wood

- Removal of Conditions 8, 9 and 10 of planning permission TW/12/01332/FUL (Extension of time: Demolition of existing chalet bungalow and construction of replacement dwelling (planning permission TW/08/01116 refers) (LB)

13/01549/LBC 4 Nevill Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks

- Listed Building Consent: Removal of non load bearing internal partitions and the removal of two redundant staircases from ground to first floor level. Removal of redundant restaurant flue pipe at high level (LB)

13/01690/HOUSE 47 & 49 Claremont Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks

- Revisions (to 1930s parts of existing structure) to approved scheme 12/02513/HOUSE and 12/02517/LBC comprising: revised part garden (SE) elevation of Claremont Lodge (kitchen and bathroom windows) and Chase Cottage (bedroom windows and living room sliding folding door opening onto sunken terrace). Omission of 1930s rear brick chimney stack above roofline to Chase Cottage (removal at first floor already approved). Internal revisions to ground floor plan of Chase Cottage (bedroom 4 included within open plan ground floor living area, garden windows altered to sliding folding door giving direct access to garden via sunken terrace and steps, kitchen relocated, cloakroom replaces additional bathroom, utility area included within kitchen). (CA) (LB)

13/01693/LBC 47 & 49 Claremont Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks

- Listed Building Consent: Revisions (to 1930s parts of existing structure) to approved scheme 12/02513/HOUSE and 12/02517/LBC comprising: revised part garden (SE) elevation of Claremont Lodge (kitchen and bathroom windows) and Chase Cottage (bedroom windows and living room sliding folding door opening onto sunken terrace). Omission of 1930s rear brick chimney stack above roofline to Chase Cottage (removal at first floor already approved). Internal revisions to ground floor plan of Chase Cottage (bedroom 4 included within open plan ground floor living area, garden windows altered to sliding folding door giving direct access to garden via sunken terrace and steps, kitchen relocated, cloakroom replaces additional bathroom, utility area included within kitchen). (LB)

13/00662/FUL The Royal Oak 92 Prospect Road, Park

- Retrospective: Fix softwood posts to existing boundary wall threaded with rope for climbing plants (CA)

13/01684/LBC 13 Calverley Park Crescent Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park

- Listed Building Consent: Installation of boiler and flue on rear elevation (LB)

13/01652/FUL 1A Sheffield Road Southborough, Southborough Town Council

- Demolition of light industrial unit and erection of a pair of semi-detached houses (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 29 June 2013



Public Notice

23 June 2013



Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 No 767

Regulation 18 – Notice of the publication of:

- Canterbury District Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation Draft June 2013
- Sustainability Appraisal
- Canterbury Landscape Character and Biodiversity Appraisal

The Local Plan will provide the overall spatial development strategy for the Canterbury District up to 2031. The City Council is inviting members of the public to view and comment on these documents between 20 June and 5pm 30 August 2013.

Copies of the Local Plan, Sustainability Appraisal and the Canterbury Landscape Character and Biodiversity Appraisal along with other supporting documents can be viewed at the Council's website www.canterbury.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy and during normal office hours at the following locations:

Canterbury City Council (Main Office)	
Military Road, Canterbury	8.30am to 5 pm
Herne Bay Divisional Office, William Street, Herne Bay	8.45am to 4.45pm

Copies are also available to view at:

- Canterbury Library – The Beane, High Street, Canterbury
- Herne Bay Library – 124 High Street, Herne Bay
- Sturry Library – Chafy Crescent, Sturry
- Swalecliffe Library – 78 Herne Bay Road, Swalecliffe
- Whitstable Library – 31-33 Oxford Street, Whitstable
- The mobile library

Comments can be made:

- online at <http://canterbury-consult.objective.co.uk/portal> or
- by email to planning.policy@canterbury.gov.uk using the downloadable comments form or by post to Planning Policy Team, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW.

All comments relating to Canterbury District Local Plan Preferred Option, Sustainability Appraisal or the Landscape Character and Biodiversity Appraisal must be received by 5pm 30 August 2013. The City Council may not be able to consider representations received after this date.

Further information can be obtained from the planning policy team on 01227 862 199 or by emailing planning.policy@canterbury.gov.uk

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PLANNING



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING APPLICATIONS
LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS
CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

DOV/13/00413	Installation of solar panels on side roof slope Anne Cottage, 75 Canterbury Road, Lydden, Dover, CT15 7EX LBC
DOV/13/00457	Demolition of existing buildings to provide 10556m² of new retail (A1) floorspace in 3 main blocks together with 362m² of A3/A4 in a separate block, 44m² of retail in a kiosk, 8 residential units with associated car parking, highways work and landscaping at St James site (DT1Z) generally between Townwall Street, Castle Street/King Street, Russell Street, Woolcomber Street and including land fronting Flying Horse Lane and a pocket park at the corner of King Street and Flying Horse Lane (revision of planning permission DOV/11/01056) St James's Site (DT1Z) between Townwall Street, Castle Street/ King Street, Russell Street, Woolcomber Street, Dover MLC
DOV/13/00473	Renewal of planning application DOV/10/00579 for the erection of 2no. detached buildings incorporating 14no. one and two bedroom flats and maisonettes and construction of vehicular access with associated car parking (existing buildings to be demolished) 20 - 24, Mill Hill, Deal, CT14 9EN MAJ
DOV/13/00462	Erection of two storey side and single storey front extensions 6 St Edmunds Road, Deal, CT14 9UQ ARW
DOV/13/00420	Painting of exterior surfaces and erection of window shutters to first floor 7 North Street, Deal, CT14 6NA SLC
DOV/13/00438	Display of directional sign Deal Town Hall, High Street, Deal, CT14 6TR LCN
DOV/13/00464	Change of use and conversion of single residential dwelling to two self contained flats 32 Liverpool Road, Walmer, Deal, CT14 7HL CON

Reason for Advert Codes:-

SLC - To affect setting of a Listed Building & Conservation Area
ARW - Affects a Public Right of Way **CON** - Within Conservation Area
MLC - Major development to affect a Listed Building & Conservation Area
LBC - The proposal affects a Listed Building
MAJ - Major Development **LCN** - Listed Building in a Conservation Area
Some applications are not publicised in this list. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent **within 21 days** marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich
Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.
Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/13/1036/S - DOLLY BEES, MALLING ROAD, TESTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 5AU - Subdivision of plot and erection of a detached chalet bungalow with associated amenity space and parking. **Reason: 1**
MA/13/1024/S - 2, THE HOLLOW, CHARLTON LANE, WEST FARLEIGH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0NS - Fit 2 new windows in flank elevation to replace 1 no: existing window. **Reason: 1, 3**
MA/13/0118/N - 9, ATHELSTAN GREEN, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1UX - Ground floor side extension. **Reason: 2**
MA/13/1001/N - THE OLD VICARAGE, UPPER STREET, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1UJ - An application for listed building consent for alterations to fenestration to side elevation, internal alterations and entrance alterations. **Reason: 3**
MA/13/0950/S - ASHMORE HOUSE, 57, LONDON ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8JH - New planning application to replace extant planning permission MA/10/0835 (change of use from offices to residential use). **Reason: 1**
MA/13/0946/N - SMITHS FARM, HOLLINGBOURNE HILL, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1QJ - Erection of a shelter. **Reason: 1**
MA/13/0907/S - THE GRANARY, BOARDEN FARM, BOARDEN LANE, STAPLEHURST, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 0EB - Alterations to outbuilding including replacement roof. **Reason: 1**
MA/13/0894/S - GREAT OAK FARM, FRIDAY STREET, EAST SUTTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3EA - Construction of eight alpaca field shelters. **Reason: 7**
MA/13/0755/N - EYLESDEN COURT, THE GREEN, BEARSTED, KENT, ME14 4BF - Creation of parking area for 4 additional cars. **Reason: 1, 2**
MA/13/0272/S - SUTTON VALENCE VILLAGE HALL, NORTH STREET, SUTTON VALENCE, KENT, ME17 3HT - Construction of extension to pitched roof and installation of 3no dormer windows to east facing roof slope. **Reason: 1**

Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
- 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
- 7 - Application affects a Public Right of Way.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **14th July 2013**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 30th June 2013.



NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/DO/0165/2013 - Proposed development at Sandwich Infant School, School Road, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 9HT

The Governors of Sandwich Infant School are applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for a proposed small extension to the head teacher's office. The proposed development is within the Sandwich Walled Town Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance, and also affects the setting of a listed building.

You may view this application at Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PJ.

KCC/TH/0184/2013 - Proposed development at Drapers Windmill, St. Peters Footpath, Margate, Kent, CT9 2SP

Kent County Council is applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for replacement bow top fencing and gates; 1m high at back edge of highway and pavement and 1.5m high to boundary with car park. The proposed development would affect the setting of a listed building.

You may view this application at Thanet District Council, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent, CT9 1XZ.

KCC/TM/0181/2013 - Proposed development at Manor Park Country Park, St Leonard's Street, West Malling, Kent, ME19 6PD

Kent Country Parks KCC is applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for proposal to surface the existing grass overflow car park with a proprietary reinforced paving system, comprising a mixture of grass and sub-base material, to allow the overflow car park to be used all year round. The proposed development is within the West Malling Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance.

You may view this application at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

KCC/AS/0180/2013 - Proposed development at Former Wavin Plastics Site, Brunswick Road, Cobbs Wood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1EL

Viridor Waste Management Ltd & Biffa Waste Services Ltd are applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for variation of conditions 2 (change to approved site layout) and 8 (hours of operation) of planning permission AS/01/1522 to allow a complementary waste management use to occupy the site.

You may view this application via a computer link at the following locations: (a) Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford; and (b) Tenterden Gateway, 2 Manor Row, High Street, Tenterden.

KCC/DA/0196/2013 - Proposed development at Swanscombe Works, Manor Way, Swanscombe, Kent, DA10 0LL

Reresco Ltd is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for an application for a temporary change of use (5 years) to a use for processing waste material (principally glass), together with associated development including plant, portakabins and enclosed storage facilities.

You may view this application at Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR.

KCC/TM/0185/2013 - Proposed development at Unit 3E, Priory Park, Mills Road, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7PP

MDJ Light Brothers (SP) Limited is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for proposed change of use of Unit 3E for waste electrical and electronic transfer and recycling together with the external storage of processed materials for onward transportation.

You may view this application at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough/District Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 30th June 2013



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
5. The application does not accord with the provisions of the Development Plan.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 15 JULY 2013

SW/13/0070:

Proposed development of 12 terraced, semi-detached and detached dwellings - Land adj 9/11 Ashford Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6**

SW/13/0700 & SW/13/0701:

Demolition of outbuildings and development of 8 new dwellings and conversion of existing stable building/cold store - 20 Ospringe Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0705:

Erection of six 2 bedroomed flats with associated parking - Land to the north of Royal Fountain Mews, West Street, SHEERNESS; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0709:

UPVC replacement joinery in existing openings - 5c Union Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0726:

Listed Building Consent to repair and replace as necessary the windows; to replace with hardwood-design as existing but to a finer more traditional design - 3 Mount Pleasant, Oare, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0729:

To remove small tiled roof to a lean to extension and erect an Oak framed conservatory - Sheldon House, Lees Court Road, SHELWDICH; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0743:

Change of use to a mixed use for the keeping of horses and use as a caravan site for the stationing of caravans/mobile homes used residentially - Horseshoe Farm, Elverland Lane, OSPRINGE; **REASON 6**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning



THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/0599/SH - The Old Wool Barn Canterbury Road Etchinghill Folkestone Kent - Felling of a tree situated within a conservation area

Y13/0563/SH+ - 6 Twiss Avenue Hythe Kent CT21 5NU - Erection of a detached outbuilding, following removal of existing garage.

Y13/0574/SH - 4 Coastguard Cottage Dungeness Road Dungeness Romney Marsh Kent - Erection of a greenhouse.

Y13/0581/SH+ - The Old Rectory Rectory Lane Saltwood Hythe Kent - Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising the reduction in height of three Ash to previous reduction points, crown reduction of an Oak by reducing height by 1 metre and laterals by 3 metres, fell three Leylandi followed by the planting of a native specimen tree.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- # - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney
- + - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

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HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS – ASHFORD AREA

BROOKFIELD ROAD, ASHFORD & CHART ROAD, GREAT CHART (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on sections of B2229 Brookfield Road, Ashford and Chart Road, Great Chart, from 18 July 2013, as follows.

The A28 roundabout (locally known as Matalan Roundabout) will be closed in 2 halves. As a result, Chart Road and Brookfield Road will both be closed at their junctions with the roundabout.

The A28 will remain open to through traffic, with traffic controlled by temporary traffic lights.

CHART ROAD, GREAT CHART closed from the roundabout to the junction with Ninn Lane.

The alternative route is via A28 Great Chart Bypass, Ashford Road, The Street and Chart Road

BROOKFIELD ROAD, ASHFORD closed from the roundabout to the junction with Leacon Road

The alternative route is via A28 Great Chart Bypass, Tithe Barn Lane, Knoll Lane and Brookfield Road

Works are planned for the evenings of 18 & 19 July and 22 & 23 July 2013, between 20:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

WHITE HILL, BOUGHTON ALUPH, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to replace telegraph poles, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of White Hill, Boughton Aluph, Ashford, as follows.

White Hill will be closed to through traffic between the junction with the A28 and 'White Ladies'. Access will remain from A251 Faversham Road to the point of closure.

The closure is planned to commence from 16 July 2013 for up to 3 days, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day.

The alternative route is via A28 Canterbury Road, A2042 Faversham Road and A251 Faversham Road.

HIGHWAYS – CANTERBURY AREA

MOLEHILL ROAD, CHESTFIELD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Molehill Road, Chestfield, as follows.

Molehill Road will be closed between the junctions with Little Paddocks and Shrub Hill Road.

The closure is planned to commence from 1 July 2013 for an estimated period of up to 10 weeks, or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Chestfield Road, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, Greenhill Road, Thornden Wood Road and Molehill Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER JULY 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable carriageway repairs to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on various roads throughout the Canterbury area, from 1 July 2013.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

It will not generally be possible to re-open roads outside normal working hours, except where otherwise stated.

EDDINGTON LANE (LINK), HERNE BAY – the short section linking Eddington Lane and A2990 (Old) Thanet Way will be closed

1 – 6 July 2013 (including Saturday)

Alternative route via A2990 (Old) Thanet Way and Eddington Way

PETT HILL, BRIDGE – closed for its entire length

1 & 2 July 2013

Alternative route via Station Road, High Street, Western Avenue, Saxon Road and Union Road

HAWE LANE, STURRY – closed for its entire length

2 – 4 July 2013

Alternative route via Popes Lane, A291 Herne Bay Road, Sturry Hill, A28 Island Road and Babs Oak Hill

HOMWOOD ROAD, STURRY – closed for its entire length

4 – 6 July 2013 (including Saturday) NB Homewood Road will not be closed until Hawe Lane has re-opened.

Alternative route via Cedar Road, Sleigh Road and A28 Island Road

RABBIT HOLE, BARHAM – closed between the junctions with Brickfield Road and Church Lane

8 – 20 July 2013 (excluding Sunday – works may extend to Saturday of 20 July if need be)

Alternative route via Mill Lane, Derringsstone Hill, Valley Road, The Street and Church Lane

WILLIAM STREET, HERNE BAY – closed between High Street and Queens Street

8 – 15 July 2013 (excluding Sunday)

Alternative routes are

Approaching from west via High Street, South Road and Kings Road

Approaching from east via High Street, Richmond Street and Kings Road

DIAMOND ROAD, WHITSTABLE – closed for its entire length

15 – 27 July 2013 (excluding Sunday – works may extend to Saturday of 27 July if required)

Alternative route via Cromwell Road, Railway Avenue and Station Road

SWANTON LANE, LITTLEBOURNE – closed for its entire length

8 – 11 July 2013

Alternative route via Elbridge Hill, Stodmarsh Road and A257 Littlebourne Road

OXFORD ROAD, CANTERBURY – closed for its entire length

11 – 15 July 2013 (excluding Sunday) between 08:30 hours and 15:30 hours

Alternative route via Guildford Road, Zealand Road, Nunnery Road

HIGHWAYS – DARTFORD AREA

RED STREET, SOUTHFLEET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL RED STREET, SOUTHFLEET DARTFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

Because of Burst Water main, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Red Street, Southfleet on or after 20th July 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction of New Barn Road.

The alternative route is via New Barn Road, Station road, Dale Road , Hook Green Road Whitehill Road Main Road and New Barn

VARIOUS ROADS, KENT (RESURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Kent, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after 1st July 2013 for up to 3 months, or until the works have been completed.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below, in a Schedule listed in alphabetical order of District.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates.

Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

DARTFORD

BOB DUNN WAY, DARTFORD – closed between Marsh Street Roundabout and Burnham Road Roundabout.

2nd July 2013 for 17 nights (excluding weekends) – 7.00pm until 5.00am

Diversion will be Burnham Road, Hythe Street, The Brent, London Road, Crossways Boulevard and Bob Dunn Way.

WEST HILL, DARTFORD – closed between Highfield Road and Shepherds Lane.

25th July 2013 for 10 nights (excluding weekends) – 7.00pm until 2.00am

Diversion will be Shepherds Lane, Princes Road, Lowfield Street, Market Street, Overy Liberty, Home Gardens and Highfield Road.

HIGHWAYS – DOVER AREA

COLDRED ROAD, EYTHORNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new gas supply, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Coldred Road, Eythorne, Dover, as follows.

Coldred Road will be closed between the junction with Great Haynes and the roundabout at Eythorne, with no direct access to Eythorne from the A2.

The closure is planned to commence from 15 July 2013 for up to 2 weeks.

The alternative route is via Great Haynes, Mill Lane, Shepherdswell Road, Shooters Hill and Chapel Hill.

VARIOUS ROADS, RURAL DOVER (MICRO-SURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER JULY 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway micro-surfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in the rural part of the Dover area, on or after 16 July 2013, as shown below.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as follows.

Closures will be between 08:30 hours and 17:30 hours each day, with roads otherwise re-opened.

SPINNEY LANE AYLESHAM – closed between Cooting Road and Ackholt Road

16 & 17 July 2013

Alternative route via Cooting Road, Adisham Road, Ratling Road and Ackholt Road

FINGLESHAM ROAD / THE STREET, NORTHBOURNE – closed between Broad Lane and West Street

18 July 2013

Alternative route via Broad Lane, Northbourne Road and West Street

CHURCH HILL, SUTTON – closed between Forge Lane and Northbourne Road

19 July 2013

Alternative route via Downs Road, Roman Road, Abbey Top, Vicarage Farm Road and Forge Lane

MILL ROAD, WINGHAM – closed between Watercress Lane and Canterbury Road

22 July 2013

Alternative route via Wingham Well Lane and Canterbury Road

GROVE ROAD, PRESTON – closed between Grove Ferry Road and Stourmouth Road

23–25 July 2013

Alternative route via Stourmouth Road, Preston Road, The Street, Gore Street, A253 Ramsgate Road, A28 Island Road, Grove Ferry Road and Grove Road

These works are weather dependent, and adverse conditions may prevent some works going ahead on the dates shown. For any that are postponed, revised dates will be notified locally and signposted on site.

Certain roads may need a brief repeat closure 1-2 weeks after the closures shown above, to allow for replacement of lining, with closures notified by signage on site.

HIGHWAYS – GRAVESHAM AREA

NEW ROAD GRAVESEND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of installation of a bulk water meter, Kent County Council intends to make an order an Order prohibiting through traffic on New Road Gravesend, on or after 3rd July 2013 for up to 1 night between the hours of 20.00 and 00.00 or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Darnley Road and Stuart Road (westbound only).

There will be no access for through traffic between these junctions

The alternative route is via Bath Street, West Street, Thames Way, London road and Overcliff.

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 0300 333 5539 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

NORAH LANE GRAVESEND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of new water connection, Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting through traffic on Norah Lane, Higham, on or after 18th July 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Walmers Avenue and Oak Drive.

There will be no access for through traffic between these junctions.

The alternative route is via Villa road, Gravesend Road and Hollytree drive.

HIGHWAYS – MAIDSTONE AREA

VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway patching works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Maidstone, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after **16th July 2013** for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates. Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

MAIDSTONE

GREEN LANE, CHART SUTTON – whole length 16th to 17th July 2013

Alternative route via Chart Hill Road, Maidstone Road, Headcorn Road, Hawkenbury Road, New Barn Road, Babylon Lane, Forsham Lane

CLAPPER LANE, STAPLEHURST – whole length 16th July 2013

Alternative route via A229 Maidstone Road, George Street

PARK BARN ROAD, BROOMFIELD/KINGSWOOD – whole length

29th July to 2nd August 2013

Alternative route via Burberry Lane, Leeds Road, Ulcombe Road, Gravelly Bottom Road, Broomfield Road

HIGHWAYS – SEVENOAKS AREA

ROCK HILL, WELL HILL, SHOREHAM, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage works to control springwater and repair the drainage system, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rock Hill, Well Hill, Shoreham, Sevenoaks, on or after 1st July 2013 for up to 14 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction of Well Hill to Pump Lane. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Well Hill, Skeet Hill Lane, Skibbs Lane, Bucks Cross Road, Hawstead Lane.

SHERNDEN LANE, EDENBRIDGE, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the replacement of electricity poles, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Shernden Lane, Edenbridge, Sevenoaks, on or after 18th July 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Chiswell Farm to Christmas Place and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.



HIGHWAYS

The alternative route is via: not applicable as this is a no through road.

HIGHWAYS – SWALE AREA

CLOCK HOUSE LEVEL CROSSING, BOUGHTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Clock House Level Crossing, Boughton, Faversham, as follows.

Clockhouse Lane, Boughton will be closed in the vicinity of the level crossing, with no access for through traffic.

The closure is planned to commence from Sunday 7 July at 19:00 hours through until Monday 8 July at 05:00 hours

The alternative route is via Clockhouse Lane, Selling Road and Brenley Lane.

OSPRINGE ROAD, FAVERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of bridge refurbishment works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2040 Ospringe Road, Faversham, as follows.

Ospringe Road will be closed for a distance of up to 20 metres either side of the railway bridge.

The closure is planned to commence from 1 July 2013 for an estimated period of up to 10 weeks, or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Ospringe Road, South Road, North Lane, Court Street, Crescent Road, B2041 Newton Road, Station Road, Forbes Road, The Mall and A2 London Road.

HIGHWAYS – THANET AREA

CHURCH STREET, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new water supply, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Church Street, Margate, as follows.

The one-way section of Church Street will be closed between the junctions with Arnold Road and Victoria Road.

The closure is planned to commence from 15 July 2013 for up to 3 days, and the road will remain closed throughout this period.

The alternative route is via Arnold Road, Cowper Road and Victoria Road.

The one-way Traffic Order in respect of Church Street between Arnold Road and Victoria Road will be suspended to allow very limited access where safe and possible.

The one-way Traffic Order in respect of Cowper Road between Victoria Road and Arnold Road will be suspended during these works, to allow for its use for the diversion.

Waiting will be prohibited at all times on both sides of Cowper Road between Victoria Road and Arnold Road, to allow traffic to flow in both directions.

STAR LANE, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of junction modification works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Star Lane, Broadstairs, as follows.

Star Lane will be closed between the junctions with A254 Margate Road and Nash Road.

The closure is planned to commence from 15 July 2013 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A254 Margate Road, A256 Haine Road, Star Lane Link and Star Lane.

HIGHWAYS – TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

BANK STREET, TONBRIDGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING & SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of it is necessary to install a new gas service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bank Street, Tonbridge, on or after 21 July 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed. The one way order on Castle Street is suspended during the works to allow for access.

The road will be closed outside number 6.

The alternative route is via Castle Street.

PARK ROAD, WEST PECKHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new water main, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Park Road, West Peckham, on or after 15 July 2013 for up to 14 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Hamptons Road to Pillar Box Lane.

The alternative route is via Hamptons Road, Oxenhoath Road, Park Road.

SANDY LANE, RYARSH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to clear a pond to alleviate flooding, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sandy Lane, Ryarsh, on or after 1 July 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from A20 London Road for a length of 40m.

The alternative route is via Norman Road, West Street, High Street, Town Hill, A20 London Road.

HIGHWAYS – TUNBRIDGE WELLS

JARVIS LANE, GOUDHURST (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching and kerbing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Jarvis Lane, Goudhurst, on or after 15 July 2013 for up to 12 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Curtidsen Green Lane to Bethany School.

The alternative route is via Curtidsen Green Lane, Jarvis Lane.

LITTLE MOUNT SION (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new gas service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Little Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells, on or after 15 July 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction of Claremont Road to Berkeley Road.

The alternative route is via Claremont Road, B2023 Mount Sion/High Street, Little Mount Sion.

SWATLANDS LEVEL CROSSING, LUCKS LANE, PADDOCK WOOD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of maintenance works to the track, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Swatlands Level Crossing, Lucks Lane, Paddock Wood, on or after 15 July 2013 for up to 2 nights or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the level crossing.

The alternative route is via B2160 Maidstone Road, Wagon Lane, Queen Street, Lucks Lane.

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 30th June 2013

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 0300 333 5539 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



Planning applications



Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

- CA/13/01058/ADV: 10 St George's Street, Canterbury, CT1 2SR External signage comprising one internally illuminated fascia sign and one internally illuminated hanging sign. Applicant: EE Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/13/01092/FUL: Herne Institute Hall, Canterbury Road, Herne,CT6 7HE Creation of double door opening on the side elevation and erection of 1.2 metres high fence. Applicant: St Martin in Herne Parish Church Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/13/01102/FUL: 30 Pound Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2BZ Rear two-storey extension. Applicant: Mr King Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/13/01104/FUL: 4 Alma Street, Canterbury, CT1 1NB Erection of a glazed conservatory extension in the rear yard. Applicant: Ms C Davis Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/13/01111/FUL: 5 The Drive, Canterbury, CT1 3NY Conservatory extension to rear. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Liu Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/13/01121/FUL: Chequers Barn, High Street, Fordwich, CT2 0DX Conversion of existing garage into additional bedroom, ensuite and gym area. Applicant: Mr M Adams Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/13/01129/FUL: Herne Bay Methodist Church, High Street, Herne Bay External works (ramps, steps and balustrades) to form new pedestrian access. Applicant: Interfix Investments Ltd Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/13/01138/FUL: Polo Farm Sports Club, Littlebourne Road, Canterbury, CT3 4AF Proposed residential development comprising 18 dwellings. Applicant: Polo Farm Sports Club Reason: Contrary to development plan and major.
- CA/13/01141/FUL: 86 St Dunstons Street, Canterbury, CT2 8AD Proposed internal and external alterations to provide independent access to existing flat, including attic conversion with dormer windows. Applicant: Mr James Uglow and Ms Brejion Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
- CA/13/01142/LB: 86 St Dunstons Street, Canterbury Proposed internal and external alterations to provide independent access to existing flat, including attic conversion with dormer windows. Applicant: Mr J Uglow and Ms Brejion Reason: Work to a listed building
- CA/13/01145/FUL: 196 High Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5AP Replacement windows to front of dwelling. Applicant: Prof Brian and Mrs Patricia Golton Reason: Conservation area.
- CA/13/01152/FUL: 8 Westbere Lane, Westbere, CT2 0HH Erection of single-storey timber outbuilding Applicant: Mr S Gough Reason: Setting listed building in conservation area.
- CA/13/01177/LB: 20 King Street, Canterbury, CT1 2AJ Internal alterations to form ensuite bathroom and ante-room storage within attic accommodation (retrospective application). Applicant: Mrs Boutwood Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to development.management@canterbury.gov.uk to arrive on or before Monday 22 July 2013.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 28 June 2013

PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

LICENSING ACT 2003:

Application for Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Shekhar Sharma of 19 Windermere Close, Dartford, Kent DA1 2TX has applied to Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council for the GRANT of Premises licence to operate as a restaurant for the Premises Licence situated at 16 Avebury Avenue, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1TN

Any person wishing to submit representations about the proposals should make them in writing to: Licensing Services, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ giving in detail the grounds of objection by 17/07/2013

MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE

A building certified for worship named Staplehurst Free Church, Station Road, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0QQ in the registration district of Kent, in the Non-Metropolitan County of Kent, was on 31st May 2013 registered for solemnising marriages therein pursuant to section 41 of the Marriage Act 1949 as amended by Section1 (1) of the Marriage Acts Amendment Act, 1958.

Superintendent Registrar
10 June 2013

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES



NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE

Notice is given that an application has been made to Shepway District Council, the Licensing Authority for a PREMISES LICENCE

To permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below.

Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of 09:00 and 17:00

At Shepway District council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY

Any interested party or responsible authority may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below:

Licensing Manager, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY

Name of Applicant: Shepway District Council

Name and Postal Address of the Premises: The Bandstand, The Leas, Folkestone, Kent.

Statement of intended licensable activities: Plays: Mon-Sat 09.00-22.00; Live Music: Mon-Sun 0900-22.00; Recorded Music: Mon-Sun 09.00-22.00; Performances of Dance : Mon-Sun 09.00-22.00; Anything of a similar description: Mon-Sun 09.00-22.00

Date by which representation must be made: 28th July 2013.

This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 30th June 2013 for 28 consecutive days.

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000

Sport

For more sports news and pictures go to www.kentsport.co.uk

SPEEDWAY

Picture: ADY KERRY

**BACK:** Mason to take on coaching role at Kings

Mason back on board at Kings after sacking

FORMER Kent Kings captain David Mason has made a sensational return to the club following his sacking last month.

The 36-year-old was set to lead the new venture based at Sittingbourne's Central Park Stadium when he signed in the summer. However, he was cut loose after just the second meeting with management feeling a change was needed.

It sparked Mason to reveal his own version of events as he did not want to give the impression he had walked away but was in fact sacked.

Happily, bridges have been rebuilt and Mason has taken on a coaching role with the side to pass on his experience to the younger members of the squad.

He got back on board after a chat with Kent Kings co-promoter Len Silver. He said: "I sorted it all out with Len and just explained why I had to put my side of the story out. I apologised, which he accepted. I said I still wanted to ride. I have, though, always wanted to help the younger riders."

"I'm pleased to be able to offer advice to the youngsters – it's very tough out there for them at an early stage in their careers and if any help that I am able to pass on moves them up the ladder and progress their careers then it's worthwhile for all concerned."

With regards to riding for the Kings again, he said: "I always say never say never, but I honestly don't think that will happen. I have said that if he does need me, for say a month, or if someone gets injured I can help."

Team manager John Sampford said: "I believe that he will help to get the best out of the younger members, which should take the whole team forward."

GOLF

Orrin Open-minded about chances with Monty draw

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

NEXT week could be a career-defining moment for one of eight Kent golfers hoping to qualifying for The Open, with one in particular up against it alongside Colin Montgomerie in his qualifying event.

Fresh from his semi-final defeat in the British Amateur Open last weekend at Royal Cinque Ports in Sandwich, Max Orrin has been drawn alongside Monty in the final phase of qualifying for The Open, which takes place at Muirfield next month. Making the cut would be a dream come true for the 19-year-old amateur who is also a part-time receptionist at a hospital, having missed out by two shots last year.

He tees off his 36 holes on Tuesday morning at the Gullane No 1 course just a few miles from Muirfield in Scotland.

Qualifying would add to a top year for the man from Birchington who in 2012 finished as the No 1-ranked junior in the world.

The North Foreland GC member also became the first non-American to win the Thunderbird International Junior tournament in Arizona. This year he also won the South of England Links Championship and Lagonda Trophy and came second in the St Andrews Link Trophy this month, all of which should put him in contention for the amateur version of the Ryder Cup, the Walker Cup, taking place in September.

"I got to this stage last year, but I missed out by two shots," he said. "I came so close. It was difficult and it took a lot out of me."

"I will have to play well. There will only be two or three from each event going through and there are 100 players."

Orrin will be joined at the qualifying event by Prince's GC member Francis McGuirk, who qualified for The Open two years when it was at Royal St George's in Sandwich, while Warren Bennett, also a Prince's member, will be hoping to qualify as he did last year.

Others from the county in the mix include Michael Bush, of Rochester & Cobham Park; Michael Saunders, pictured right, of Dartford; Amir Habibi, of Royal St Georges; Daniel Maude, from Canterbury; and Mark Collins, from Chart Hills.

Trying to make it as an amateur in golf is more



PRO? Max Orrin, crouching, right, is unsure whether to go to qualifying school

costly than many other sports, say compared with non-league football, as it comes with thousands of pounds of travelling costs, entry fees and equipment.

"Getting into it was quite easy. I didn't have any trouble from that sense," said Orrin.

"But golf is an expensive sport unless you get the right sponsors and people, and parents who can fund you. It's a tough sport to do well in otherwise."

"I've been very lucky. But for some youngsters out there it's difficult to get into, especially with membership and then going to tournaments – it's not cheap at all. I would say it's about £10,00 a year."

Working part-time as a receptionist pays the bills in the winter and gives him the flexibility to fit his golf in during the season.

"I decided not to go to university, and just spend a year on golf," he said. "In one sense it's a gamble, as you could get injured, and it depends how you play. But I have got a lot of support. I thought it was worth giving it a shot."

The next step would be going to qualifying school for the European Tour in September, a move that he is as yet undecided about.

"I'm not sure whether I want to do that this year or next," he said.

"You can never have enough experience playing in the amateurs. I've not played that level, so I wouldn't know what to expect."

FOOTBALL

Gills capture German as pre-season gets going

FORMER loanee Antonio German has become Gillingham's second summer signing, with players returning to pre-season this week.

The Gills struck a deal with Brentford for the 21-year-old on Thursday, with the club paying a nominal fee for his services.

He joins former Accrington Stanley midfielder Amine Linganzi through the door so far.

German spent a month on loan at Priestfield in the second half of the season, scoring once in seven games before being recalled by the Bees.

His solitary goal, the opener in the 2-1 win over Plymouth Argyle in March, reignited the club's stuttering



DEAL: Brentford did not want German

home form as they then pushed on to clinch the League Two title.

"He was deemed not good enough for Brentford and it's my job to help him, support him and guide him in the

right direction, to help himself and of course score goals for Gillingham Football Club," said Gills boss Martin Allen. "The German proved, in that pivotal game against Plymouth, where he scored one goal and made one, that he can do it."

"He doesn't know it yet, but he will be pushed and pressured into the toughest pre-season, both mentally and physically, to maximise his undoubted ability."

Another boost for the Gills is the news that left-back Joe Martin has signed a new two-year deal at the club. Talks were nearing a conclusion with the 24-year-old last week, with the deal being sealed this Tuesday.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Dover offer deals and axe duo

CHRIS Kinnear has trimmed his **Dover Athletic** squad by releasing Calum Willock and Steven Thomson.

Striker Willock, 29, played 27 times and scored five goals after arriving from **Ebbw Vale United** last summer, while Thomson, 35, made just 12 appearances in his only year at the club.

Kinnear has, though, offered contracts to midfielder Barry Cogan and keeper Mitchell Walker.

Conference Premier new boys **Welling United** have secured the future of 22-year-old centre-back Fraser Franks; however, his defensive partner, 23-year-old Anthony Acheampong, has joined relegated League Two side Barnet on a two-year deal.

Tony Burman has added firepower to his **Dartford** side by bringing in Lewis Smith from AFC Hornchurch. The 23-year-old forward scored 12 goals in 42 games for the Essex side, who were relegated from Conference South last season.

Ryman One South team **Ramsgate** have completed the double signing of striker James Everitt and utility man Marvin Okundalaiye.

Everitt spent the second half of last season at Ryman One South rivals **Hythe Town**, having spent years with **Folkestone Invicta**.

Okundalaiye, who can play at right-back or in midfield, recently decided to leave **Herne Bay**.

Sport

For more sports news and pictures go to www.kentsport.co.uk

CRICKET

Kemp influence paved the way for paceman Philander to join attack

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

KENT owe thanks to a few of their former South African players for the arrival of the world's No 2 Test bowler Vernon Philander.

The 28-year-old, pictured right, was unveiled at The Spitfire, St Lawrence Ground this week as the county's overseas signing for the middle part of the season.

His arrival adds some serious steel to Kent's bowling attack, with Matt Coles, Mark Davies, Charlie Shreck, Darren Stevens and loanee Mitchell Claydon to call upon. Captain James Tredwell is also back with the county following his involvement with England over the last month.

Philander will be available for all forms of the game, including the two County Championship matches towards the end of next month against Hampshire and Gloucestershire, after which he will be jetting off to play in the Caribbean Premier League.

He is not the first from his country to set foot inside the home dressing room at Kent, and despite considerable interest in his services he was persuaded to join by his fellow countryman, batsman Justin Kemp, who played for the county in the 2005 and 2006 seasons.

"I had a chat with Justin Kemp last week, who said the club was a great setting and there was a great bunch here. I had other offers, but after that conversation it was pretty obvious where I was going," said Philander.

Born in Bellville, near Cape Town, he started his career in 2001 with Western Cape, who became the Cape Cobras in 2004. His form led to recognition with South Africa's under-19 side, while he also spent time with Devon and, more recently, Somerset and Middlesex.

He burst on to the Test scene in 2011, taking 5-15 on his debut against Australia, and completed a second five-wicket haul later in the same series.

In total he has taken 89 wickets in his first 16 Test matches for the Proteas, claiming 50 in his first seven games at an average of 17.13, putting him hot on the heels of compatriot Dale Steyn in the official ICC rankings.

He had made his one-day international debut earlier in 2007 but has since struggled to cement his place in the side.

"I love it over here. I'm often here in the first

**FAST-PACED:**

South African bowler Vernon Philander will provide some steel in Kent's attack during his brief stay in the county

Picture:
ADY KERRY

ENGLAND'S FIRST KENT SKIPPER IN 25 YEARS

JAMES Tredwell has become the first Kent player for a quarter of a century to captain England.

The 31-year-old joined an illustrious list when he led England out at The Oval against New Zealand in the second and final of their T20 matches on Thursday night.

With usual one-day-international captain Stuart Broad being rested, and

stand-in skipper Eoin Morgan nursing a hand injury, Tredwell was handed the role for the match, which was abandoned because of rain with England at 2-1.

Tredwell was the first Kent player to skipper England since Chris Cowdrey led England in 1988 for one game, a loss to West Indies.

He followed in the footsteps of his father, the

great Colin Cowdrey, who led England between 1959 and 1969, while also later being vice-captain.

Kent wicketkeeper Alan Knott captained an ODI game in 1976, while the late Mike Denness also led England in 12 matches between 1972-75, having also been Test captain for the same period on 19 occasions.

few months of the season," he said. "I'm excited and grateful for the opportunity and hopefully I can put in the performances and pass on my experience to the younger guys in the side.

"If I get an opportunity to play a longer season, I would like to do that. I have to see what happens with the internationals.

"I've plenty of opportunities to come over to the UK and this is the county I'm committed to. If you're going to perform you're going to have

the added pressure on you. I just need to go out there and do what I do and results will happen."

Kent chief executive Jamie Clifford said the county began looking at their overseas-player options in the winter. He said: "The profile of the player is important – you can make a statement by recruiting a player of standing.

"It comes back to the cricket point – the captain and coach were clear what they wanted to add to the club."

ROWING

Ransley and Ritchie win gold at World Cup

ROWERS Tom Ransley and Dan Ritchie played a part in helping Great Britain men's eight to a gold medal at the World Cup at the weekend.

Ritchie from Herne Bay and Ransley from Ashford clinched first place at Eton Dorney just half a second ahead of Poland in second with a time of 5:25.93. The return to Eton Dorney was a happy one for Ransley, who claimed an Olympic bronze medal there last summer, while Ritchie was ruled out of the Games through injury.

They joined Olympic men's four champions Andrew Triggs Hodge, Pete Reed and Olympic and World medallists Alex Gregory, Will Satch, Mohamed Sbihi and cox Phelan Hill and Oliver Cook in the boat.

BASKETBALL

Ex-Crusader's coach given first pro role

FORMER Medway Park Crusaders coach James Vear has been handed his first role at a professional club after taking the reins at Danish side Aalborg Vikings.

Vear, who joined the Gillingham-based outfit in 2009 to coach the academy side, left as head coach last summer for an assistant coaching role at a university in Canada. Now he will now move into the sport full-time on a domestic basis.

Before he starts, though, he is currently preparing for the European Championships in Romania as assistant coach with the GB under-20 team.

ICE HOCKEY

Parrish backs young talent for starring role

HARRISON Lillis has been backed for a starring role with the Invicta Dynamos next season after penning a deal to return to the club.

The 19-year-old defenceman has risen through the ranks at the club, representing the Mustangs on a regular basis since the age of 16, before last season filling in when injuries limited coach Kevin Parrish's options.

The Mos coach feels he can be a valuable asset this season: "His performances on the back line, most notably against Cardiff and Chelmsford in the play-offs, showed that his natural position is on the blue line and it's here that I see him making his mark for us in 2013/14. Harry has plenty of potential and heart."

WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

England confident ahead of World Cup defence in Medway

A World Cup with a difference is coming to Medway next week.

Six nations will battle it out for the Wheelchair Rugby League World Cup at the Medway Park sports complex in Gillingham.

Based on the same rules as the running version of the game, but played in wheelchairs, it boasts hard-hitting and fast-paced action for fans to enjoy. Tackles are made by ripping velcro tags off players' shoulders, but it does not mean that it is a non-contact sport.

There are also local connections in the England side who are hoping to retain the trophy they won in Australia four years ago. They are coached by Mark Roughsedge, who is also head coach at the Medway Dragons rugby league club, while player Joe Coyd plays for both.

Roughsedge said: "We are very confident in

what we do. If we turn up and produce our best I think we are going to be very difficult to beat. We rate our chances. We are confident in our own ability – we don't want to worry about anybody else."

While the Dragons run their own wheelchair team who play around the country, they also hosted an international between France and England at Medway Park last summer that attracted a record crowd of more than 600.

"It has grown massively on the back of that," said Roughsedge. "We have started a new club in Folkestone. There's lots of people turning up."

England and France are joined by Australia, Ireland, Scotland and Wales in the tournament, which starts on Wednesday, July 3. Tickets are £4-£10; to book, visit www.medwayticketslive.co.uk or phone 01634 338338.



FAVOURITES: England hope to retain their crown

MOTORSPORT

Hill shows promise in BTCC debut at Croft

JAKE Hill's promising British Touring Car Championship debut was the bright note of a wet weekend for Airwaves Racing at Croft.

The 19-year-old was filling in for Liam Griffin behind the wheels of the Addison Lee S2000 Ford Focus for the team and came away with the Jack Sears Trophy for his class win.

Despite the weather, the Wortham-based team picked up points finishes in each of Sunday's three races.

"I'm over the moon with the Jack Sears Trophy win," said Hill. "I'm pleased with the job I've done. This weekend has just driven me on even further to want to race in the BTCC."

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